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C. D. BRIGHAM, - - - - - - *Editor.*
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FIRST EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Schurz's Speech on General Amnesty

His Review of the Late Campaign in Missouri—Senator Drake Replies—R. R. Butler's Pension Fraud Case—Legal Sharp Practice—Rumors of Secretary Boutwell's Resignation Chimerical—No Vote on the Amnesty Bill—New Classification of Sugars.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 15, 1870.

Senator Schurz's Speech.

The speech of Senator Schurz to-day attracted more attention than any which has been delivered in the Senate during the present Congress, and the scene forcibly recalled the times when the leading reconstruction measures were passing the ordeal of President Johnson's vetoes. It is the theme of conversation in all quarters to-night, and is everywhere regarded as a great effort, except by the men "inside politics," who suffered severely throughout the speech. Gen. Schurz spoke two hours and a half, and a large majority of the Senate paid him that most unusual compliment of listening very attentively from first to last. The galleries were crowded, and scarcely a woman there left during the delivery of the speech. There was also a large attendance from the House, and most of the members who came remained until the last. Few Senators in their long career have commented by such marked attention from a Congressional audience as was Gen. Schurz to-day.

Senator Drake's Reply.

Senator Drake appeared like a very unhappy man throughout, and quite a number of his associates seemed to recognize the trouble he was in, and from time to time Cameron, Chandler and other friends of this class appeared to be comforting and prompting him. It is known that these gentlemen do not regard Mr. Drake as fully competent to meet the ease against him presented by Schurz, and it was principally on this account that adjournment was arranged so as to give time to consider. Drake said he could not allow the audience which had heard one statement of his case in the league, to scatter until it had heard the answer to the question he proposed to ask his colleague; Senator Schurz, in referring to the nomination of Hon. James Rollins in Missouri, as a State Senator, was so much out of place, because knew him well, as he was the same gentleman whose election he (Mr. Drake) had opposed in 1857, on the ground that his election would be dangerous to slavery. Mr. Drake, without referring to the speech, went on in long and involved sentences, half speech, half question, to ask Schurz for the proof. His effort reminded nearly all his hearers of Forney's letter. He had no recollection of ever having given such reasons for opposing Mr. Rollins. If he had, he had not done so in public, and he was nearly as sure he had never done it in writing; and if he had said it privately, he would not, because it was contrary to the act of bringing up his private record as far as he knew it, to attack it in public then, in a manner about equally dramatic and solemn, called upon his colleague to exhibit proof of the charge he had made.

Schurz rose promptly, and said he supposed his colleague was attempting to refer to him on whose authority he made the statement called in question. He had to say that it was upon the authority of Mr. Rollins himself. The contrast between this brief and straight forward reply and Drake's long and solemn arraignment was such as raised a general laugh, pending which Mr. Drake retired.

Boutwell's Reasons Stated in Case.

Wherein he is charged with defrauding the Government pensioners who intrusted their business to him, will come up for trial in the District Criminal Court in a few days. As the matter is now stands, and from the statements of Butler's only way to clear himself will be to convict the witnesses for the prosecution for perjury.

The Case of John J. Weed.

The papers in the case of John J. Weed, late Assistant Solicitor of the Court of Claims, charged with using the name of a legal firm of this city in signing a judgment without their authority, and then procuring the money therein from the Treasury Department, have been placed in the hands of the District Attorney here for his action. Weed has has not yet put in answer to the bill charging him with the above conduct, which was filed in the Court of Claims some time since by the attorneys, who lost their fees through Weed's action. It is understood that Weed has, however, made an affidavit, which he will submit to the Court, in which he avers that he controverts the allegations set forth in the bill, and claims that he was fully empowered by the proper parties to act as he did with regard to the case that he has done. This case excites a great deal of interest among the legal fraternity, and will be watched with a degree of much comment.

Persian Burgomaster.

Lewis Dietle, the defaulting Prussian Burgomaster, was taken back to Prussia to-day on one of the North German steamers. All his effects, being, as he alleges, sufficient to cover his liabilities, and the case did not come under the North German extradition treaty, have thus far proved fruitless, and he will be turned over to the tender mercies of the Prussian authorities.

Boutwell Will Not Resign.

The rumors of Secretary Boutwell's resignation sent out from here last night, there is the best authority for saying, were chemerical.

The Amnesty Bill.

Did not come up to-day, and will be further debated next Tuesday.

Reclassification of Sugars.

The bill introduced by Mr. Hooper to-day affects merely the classification of sugars, and does not change the rate. Secretary Boutwell appeared before the Committee of Ways and Means this morning, and explained the measure, stating that the classification asked for was really what was intended when the bill was framed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 15, 1870.

THE CAPITAL OF OHIO.

There is said to be little doubt that the Committee on Banking and Currency will soon report to the House a bill for the increase of banking capital that will allow towns in cities having more than 100,000 inhabitants, to have a capital not exceeding a million dollars. This is based on Mr. Sheldon's bill for the increase of banking capital in Louisville, on the ground that cotton planters and dealers frequently have money transactions beyond the capital of any one bank in that city, and that it is averse to the interests of trade to confine them to the capital of any possessing several banks besides being inconvenient to the trader. The Committee consider the bill at yesterday's meeting but did not finally dispose of it.

THE COMMISSIONERSHIP OF INTERNAL REVENUE.

The appointment of General Pleasanton to the Commissionership of Internal Revenue was unlooked for just at this time. Some three or four weeks ago it was thought certain that Commissioner would be appointed—in fact, it was intimated so strongly at the White House, that no doubt existed in our minds that he had been appointed—but slowly, gradually, as Senators and representatives returned, it was found that Mr. Douglass had all the political strength. It even went so far against General Pleasanton that General Logan went to the President, and on behalf of the Grand Army of the Republic, protested against the appointment. Senator Cameron and other Pennsylvanians then called on the President and received what they considered positive assurances that Mr. Douglass would get the appointment. Having been so assured they made one more request, namely, that the announcement be made on Friday or Monday last, so as to have an influence on the local election for State Senator to be held in Philadelphia the 20th instant, to fill a vacancy. To this, too, the Pennsylvanians felt fully assured, and to-day appears that the President intended to make the nomination on Monday. Monday morning General Forney, who had been doing the Pennsylvania Presidential, said he felt certain his friend would be appointed. This announcement staggered even his own confidence, but before night it was discredited by nearly all. Even yesterday when a report was current in the telegraph offices, on of the prominent workers in Mr. Douglass's behalf, and told him a commissioner of Internal Revenue had been nominated, he felt so sure of who it was that he hurried to tell his friends for fear the announcement had been nominated. When the train found its way to the Senate and House, the question was asked, "What does Grant mean?" "He means that he don't want the vote of Pennsylvania's next fall's re-election," said one. "He intends to put Forney in the Cabinet," said another. "He has enough leave from the politicians, and don't care to [illegible] the army," said a third. "He has gone crazy," we will say himself for this," said still another. These were the talk of the hour in the little knots of Congressmen from Pennsylvania, who stood discussing the news, while the New Yorkers fairly chipped their hands in glee.

Now that will be the result? That is a question that can be answered with a degree of certainty unless something is done to counteract the present feeling. The appointment will begot a trial in the interest of Kelley's bill for the abolition of the Revenue Department, and make whisky, malt liquors and tobacco the basis of our internal revenue collections. And the bill must pass.

It will be seen that primarily this was Pennsylvania's fight, and secondarily, a fight between the politicians, brewers and whisky term "the army ring." While a certain number of politicians would insist that he be Pleasanton as Douglass, and probably rather, yet they scarcely feel as if they have been defeated. In this connection it is to be noted that though the subject has been freely discussed by a thousand persons in this city not [illegible] during the past week. I have yet to hear a single or essay a word against General Pleasanton personally, or to cast reflections upon his capacity for becoming a good faithful Commissioner of Internal Revenue. Of course, he will be confirmed.

AMATEUR PERFORMANCE OF MARTHA.

A Washington correspondent writes that the city is excited over the rendition of the opera "Martha," on Tuesday night, at Wall's Opera House, by a company of amateur performers, belonging to the most fashionable society. The house was literally packed with one of the most intelligent audiences ever gathered in Washington. President Grant and his family, members of the Cabinet, Diplomatic Corps, Senators and Representatives were among those present. Musical critics pronounce the performance a great success in every respect, and fully equal to any given by professional opera singers.

LEE FAMILY DISAPPROVE MCCREERY'S RESOLUTION.

Information has been received to the effect that the Lee family are much chagrined by the ill-advised resolution of Senator McCreery, and shown having ever entertained the idea of removing Arlington. The prominent Democratic politicians that McCreery is aiding for the Governorship of Kentucky.

CINCINNATI SOUTHERN RAILROAD BILL.

The Committee on Roads and Canals has not yet considered the bill of Mr. Stevenson, introduced several days ago, authorizing the construction of Southern Railroad bridge over navigable streams. The bill careful guards against obstructing the Ohio, providing the bridge over that river shall be not less than ninety feet above low water mark, and that it shall have a span four hundred feet from pier to pier across the main channel.

SECRETARY BOUTWELL'S RUMORED RETIREMENT.

The possibility that Secretary Boutwell might retire from the Cabinet within a very short period was the foundation of no inconsiderable comment among some Senators and members to-day, who are in a position to know what is going on inside the Administration. The story goes that for some time a strong western influence has been representing to the President that it was impolitic to keep up the present oppressive taxation in order to largely reduce the public debt, and asking that less of the debt be paid off per month, and the taxes be still further reduced by Congress. These views, it is represented, were concurred in by the President, and by him submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury. Mr. Boutwell, it is said, looked upon it as almost an abandonment of the financial policy of the administration, which he was not willing to yield to readily. It does not appear to be true that any open rupture has resulted between the President and Secretary, but a Western Senator stated that Mr. Boutwell will tender his resignation rather than give his adhesion to a change in his programme.

DECISION RELATIVE TO CIGAR MANUFACTORIES.

A decision of the Internal Revenue Bureau requires a cigar manufacturer to put up in a conspicuous place within his manufactory the certificate of location from his Collector, setting forth the number of cigar makers for which his bond has been given. All cigars must be packed and stamped before being removed from the manufactory to the store where they are sold under a special tax except as dealer, whether the removal is from a part of the building where they are made to another part of the same building, but other than the manufactory or place where they were made, they must be returned to the Assessor as removed for consumption or sale.

CURRENT NEWS.

The Senate, in Executive session to-day, confirmed the following nominations: William R. Page, of Virginia, to be Consul at Port Said; Spencer M. Aspenefelter, to be United States Attorney for New Mexico; Thomas M. Harris, Pension Agent at Wheeling, West Virginia.

Four postmasters—J. M. Gallegher, Santa Clara, California; George Rowland, Sacramento, Cal.; D. McDonald, Princeton, Ills.; James A. Hudson, Saginaw, Mich.; Gustavus Hinrichs, Marengo, Iowa; John H. Stewart, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Levi Wetrich, Tiffin, Ohio; E. H. Hollinger, Verden, Ills.; Orville Brown, Canton, Illinois; Miss Mary T. Russell, Hillsdale, Michigan; Miss D. Hastings, Monroe, Mich.; John Kenslar, Connersville, Ind.; Wm. A. Bough, Berlin, Wis.; Lewis D. Conway, Chippewa Falls, Wis.; Lyman P. Hewitt, West Eau Claire, Wis.; L. A. Baker, Wilmington, Del.; Samuel Ely, Mechanicsburg, Ohio; J. M. Sheets, Paris, Ill.; James L. Camp, Dixon, Illinois.

Hiram E. Kelly, to be Collector of the Sixth district of Wisconsin; Geo. E. E. Hassle, Collector of Customs, Oswego, N. Y., and a large number of promotions of cadets.

COL. DOUGLAS SEVERELY INJURED.

Late last night, Colonel Robert Douglas, Private Secretary to President Grant, was seriously injured by being thrown from a buggy. Mrs. Cutts, his grandmother, and another lady, also sustained severe injuries. They were returning from a charity fair, and the horses were frightened by the vehicle coming in contact with a street railway carriage.

DEATH OF REV. CHAS. S. STEWART.

Secretary Robeson to-day received a telegram announcing the death at Cooperstown, N. Y., yesterday, of Rev. Charles Samuel Stewart, senior chaplain of the United States navy.

THE POSTAL TELEGRAPH.

Gardiner G. Hubbard this morning appeared before the Special Committee of the House on the Postal Telegraph. He has recently returned from Europe, and by request made the statements in regard to postal telegraphs abroad.

Baltimore and Pittsburgh.

Speech of John W. Garrett at Baltimore

A Ship Canal from the Chesapeake to Delaware Bay—Importance of a Through Line of Railway to Chicago via Pittsburgh.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 15, 1870.

On the occasion of his re-election to the Presidency of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, at Baltimore yesterday, John W. Garrett took occasion to remark that the rapid development of the commerce of Baltimore must soon demand that a first-class ship canal be constructed to unite the waters of the upper Chesapeake with those of Delaware bay. He referred very particularly to the importance to Baltimore of a continuous line of railroad through Pittsburgh from Chicago, and thence connecting with the trunk line of the Baltimore and Ohio Road, and said that the city of New York had derived an immense portion of its wealth from the Erie Railroad, and that the Northwest, by availing of this most economical route, can add largely to the prosperity and power. Arrangements are in progress by which the early construction of the great line will be consummated. In spite of the immense success which had attended the operations of the line of steamships between Baltimore and Liverpool, he said that the Oceanic Steamship Company although it had come to Baltimore for an additional line between these two cities, and would soon have ready steamers for this purpose.

Paying Dearly for a Stolen Ride.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

JOHNSTOWN, PA., December 15, 1870.

John L. Dudtle, a sailmaker of Wilmington, Del., in attempting to jump on a freight train going east yesterday morning, about four and a half miles east of Conemaugh, was caught between the cars and had his right leg mangled. He was brought to this place and had the limb amputated above the knee. Mr. Dudtle was evidently trying to "dump" his way through.

EDUCATING THE FREEDMEN.

General Howard's Report—Success of the Work and its Needs.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 15, 1870.

The last report of General O. O. Howard, Superintendent of the Freedman's Bureau, is published. The most interesting part of it is in relation to the educational work. The limited appropriations interfered with it somewhat, but the schools have improved in character and the teaching has been of a higher grade. The aggregate of teachers and pupils is about the same as one year ago. The number of schools regularly reported is 2,677. Returns have been made of 618 others. The number of teachers employed in all these schools has been 3,990, and the number of pupils is 149,351, about 50 pupils to each teacher. The average attendance has been greater than before, being nearly 80 per cent. of the total number enrolled. In this respect there has been a gradual improvement in the past five. The teachers, as in former years, have been appointed and paid entirely by benevolent associations. The aid granted by this bureau has been furnished in the construction, repair and rental of school buildings, in general oversight of the whole work, and in correspondence with the other agencies co-operating with it. Appropriations have been made for the construction or partial construction of 224, for repairs of 198, and for the rent of 598 school buildings. Before any building is constructed it is required that the ground be deeded to trustees, who bind themselves and their successors to hold and use the same and the building thereon for educational purposes forever, and that public shall never be occupied for religious or political purposes during the time the rental or sale thereof, or on account of race or previous condition of servitude.

The number of normal schools and of industrial schools has largely increased. Of the former, seventy-four, with an attendance of 8,447, and of the latter sixty-one, with 1,759 pupils, have been in active operation. The wisdom of establishing normal schools for the training of teachers of high grade for the training of teachers is every year more apparent. The report shows that a majority of the teachers now employed in the schools above reported are colored men and women. Of the remainder, 1,235 only are white. The freedmen have also contributed a larger amount for educational purposes than in any former year, having stafined wholly or in part 1,231 schools. These facts indicate that they are advancing as rapidly as could be reasonably hoped toward self-support and independence.

The General says the Southern States have been too much occupied with other things, to give to education the attention its importance demands. In two or three States good beginning has been made. But no Southern State is fully prepared with buildings, teachers, funds, and intelligent officers to set in operation and sustain an efficient free school system. Even for the white children no adequate provision is made. The colored people are very poor; the most of them are still ignorant; they know very little about the organization and the management of schools; they can not judge of the qualifications of teachers. Hence the right of suffrage and representation with which, and will need at least this kind of help, if not material aid, for years to come. How considerate on the mind of every man should be the question of the prosperity and power. Arrangements in progress by which the early construction of the great line will be consummated. In spite of the immense success which had attended the operations of the line of steamships between Baltimore and Liverpool, he said that the Oceanic Steamship Company although it had come to Baltimore for an additional line between these two cities, and would soon have ready steamers for this purpose.

STATE LEGISLATURES.

North Carolina.

RALEIGH, December 15.—The House to-day sent a committee of three to the bar of the Senate impeaching Governor Holden and demanding that they take order in the matter. On informing the Senate that articles of impeachment would be preferred, the Senate replied that they would consider the matter and take order therein.

Virginia.

RICHMOND, December 15.—The question of the State debt was up in the Senate this morning. The tenor of the speeches was in favor of carrying the matter of West Virginia's share of the debt before the United States Supreme Court, and that articles of impeachment would be preferred there, then Virginia will settle the whole debt. All are opposed to any idea of repudiation.

THE Cincinnati *Gazette* of yesterday says: It is understood in Washington that the commission appointed to inspect the Newport Bridge will report that the bridge, as planned, does not conform to the law, and will recommend the needed changes.

SECOND EDITION,

4 O'CLOCK, A. M.

THE WAR.

CAPITULATION OF MONTMEDY.

Another Great Sortie from Paris

Said to Have Met with Unexpected Success.

Official News Published by the French Government.

Manteuffel Moving to Reinforce Frederick Charles.

FRANCE.

Internal Dissensions in Paris.

PARIS, December 15.—Food is scarce; weather bad. Moltke's letter announcing the capture of Orleans causes great excitement. The people are still resolved on resistance. The sharpshooters have been disbanded for fear of a fight with the National Guards, and unfortunate dissensions daily occur amongst the officers. One commander of artillery refused to obey an order. Ducrot and Blanqui have had a violent quarrel, and the latter has been displaced by another officer.

French Official News.

BORDEAUX, December 14.—The following news is official: There has been no serious engagement since the 10th. The evacuation of the triangle formed by the towns of Pierrefonds, Brezolles and Breux is confirmed. Dieppe has been free since the 10th. Evereux and Barbigny have been occupied by the Germans. A number of small engagements, in which the French were successful are reported to have occurred on the left bank of the Loire. The Prussians occupy Contres, Mont Richard and Romorantin. The Government has announced that the ports of Havre and Dieppe are not open to neutral vessels.

Prisoners assert that the losses of the army of Prince Frederick Charles, during the combats with General Chanzy, have not been less than 20,000 men, and the villages in the neighborhood are filled with wounded. There is no communication with the north of France.

The journals here demand prompt elections for the Constituent Assembly.

News has reached here that the Prussians were surprised at Chambord by some Mobiles and franc-tireurs. It is asserted that the Prussians have not injured Chateau de Chambord.

It is reported that the Prussians have bombarded Blois, and now occupy one of the faubourgs of Tours. Gambetta was there when last heard from, and says he will defend the city.

The Prussians demanded the surrender of Bourges, but the Governor of the city had the bridge over the Loire blown up in the defense of which many perished. The safety of the force under Gen. Chanzy, which moved toward the West, when it will be heavily reinforced, and the report that Bourbaki forces are in good condition.

LATER.—The report that the Prussians are at Tours is contradicted. A dispatch from Alencon says the Prussians have occupied Vermiel and Dreux toward Chartres and Versailles.

Another Grand Sortie from Paris—French Official Dispatches.

BORDEAUX, December 14.—Rumors are circulating here that a sortie of greater proportions than the last has been made from Paris, and has met with unexpected success. The following official dispatches have been received by the Government:

HAVRE, December 14.—The Prussian force which was preparing to attack this city is hurriedly retiring.

CAEN, December 14.—A balloon from Paris landed to day at Honfleur with dispatches and letters.

Further News from Bordeaux.

BORDEAUX, December 14, Evening.—The Government here has given to the public as yet nothing official from Paris. The excitement in the city is intense. The people are evidently resolved to die in the streets of the great sortie, which they believe has taken place at Paris. It is said an aid-de camp of General Trochu has arrived here. A review was held to-day of the 15 millions who are about to set out to reinforce the army of the Loire. An immense number of troops, well equipped, were on the march. The Parisian fleurs are very active, and we hear of their exploits in all parts of the country. Several convoys of provisions for Paris have been surprised by them, and many Prussians have been taken prisoners. The Prussians have inflicted heavy loss in killed and wounded on the enemy in the western Departments, and have indirectly rendered important assistance to the Government. The Government of National Defence has made Ricciotti Garibaldi a member of the Legion of Honor.

The city of Tours is not to be abandoned. The enemy are retreating toward Paris. Minister Gambetta is at present in Tours. He has gone here to the army of the Loire, and will remain with it for the present.

ENGLAND.

A Newspaper Lament.

LONDON, December 14.—The *Independence Belge* laments that the Prussian war reports have lost the character for veracity first ascribed to them.

The Germans Near Tours—Manteuffel Abandons the Attack on Havre.

Special Dispatch to the World.

LONDON, December 14.—The Germans are near Tours and offer battle on both sides of the river.

General Feldherb, with the Twenty-second Corps, having reconstructed La Pere, Ham and St. Quentin, is moving on Laon.

Manteuffel has abandoned the attack on Havre and is moving south to aid Prince Frederick Charles.

A sortie from Paris is hourly expected. The French losses in the last sortie, according to official reports, were 1,500 killed and 5,000 wounded.

The Defense of Havre—No Privateers Discovered in the Vicinity.

LONDON, December 15.—Dispatches from Havre report that that city and Honfleur is quiet. A force of thirty thousand men have been thrown over from Cherbourg. Havre is filled with war material. There are a number of gunboats in the Seine from Honfleur. Dispatches from Paris to the 10th say the defenses are in good condition.

The American steamship Erie, from New York, laden with American provisions for Paris is off Cowes, whence she will be escorted by French men-of-war to a French port. The American subsistance at Paris is extolled as a model of efficiency and curative success.

Anxiety About the Luxemburg Affair—Capitulation of Montmedy.

LONDON, December 15.—Anxiety about the result of the Luxemburg affair causes much speculation and gloom in the city.

The new German loan is already quoted at a premium.

5 P. M.—The Prussians have certainly occupied Blois.

An official report of the surrender of Phalsbourg states that fifty-two officers, 1,620 men and 24 eagles and standards, together with the fortress. Montmedy has also surrendered to the Germans. The besiegers did not bombard the town, as was reported. They battered the walls with solid shot, and as soon as it was practicable, effected a breach the place capitulated.

From Versailles to the 10th.

LONDON, December 14.—The *Herald's* correspondent at Versailles has sent the following reports:

VERSAILLES, December 9.—Everything is quiet. We have snow and intense cold. It is reported that Paladines insists upon appearing before the people. The latter have a decree against Gambetta.

December 10.—The stagnation continues, and the neighborhood is strangely peaceful, tranquility being only disturbed by an occasional gun from Mont Valerien. Rumor has it that voting is proceeding in Paris on a plebiscite, urging further resistance. The synopsis of President Grant's message is well received. It is considered that its Monroe character will have the effect to make England agree to the Russian proposals.

PRUSSIA.

Napoleon Declares He Will Never Return to France by Military Power.

WILHELMSHOHE, December 12.—The Emperor is in perfect health. He has received visits from Chevalier Wikoff, of New York, and Cosalgne. Bazaine is confined to his rooms by illness. In a conversation the Emperor has declared that he will never return to France by military power; that the people four times approved his election, and they alone have the right of the throne and anyone from which he held a violent quarrel, and the latter has been displaced by another officer.

The Defense of Strasburg.

PARIS, December 13.—At the sitting of the Hungarian Delegation to-day, M. Benedik replied to a question, that the Austro-Hungarian army consists of 864,000 regulars, and 187,567 landwehr. The regulars possess 360,279 carbines since 1867. The regulars possess 360,279 breech-loading carbines, and the Landwehr 187,567 muzzle-loaders, of which 15,000 more are required for their armament.

Little Hope for French Success.

CHICAGO, December 15.—A private letter from France, dated November 27th, from Agent Lemoe, a prominent insurance agent, contains the following: The people, when shown the condition of military affairs in that country, as well as the special condition of the people, it will be observed that while he is full of devotion, he admits the little hope now remaining to the French. He says "I hope soon to be called into military service. I have been told that I am designated for one of our armies. We are waiting every day for the announcement of some great battle, on which depends our destinies. The preliminary engagements have been in our favor. Our Army of the Loire is not our last army, not our last resource. We have many people armed and ready, but they are merely crowds of not organized strength; but if we have some success and catch the enemy around Paris for two or three days, France will rise again stronger than before. For the present, the heaviest anxiety presses our hearts. I will do my duty to the end, and if France is defeated I wish to die in some struggle. If I remain alive I will do my best to restore her, and if this is forbidden me I intend to go to America.

INSIDE PARIS.

Notes on the Daily Life of the Doomed Capital.

From the late correspondence of the New York *Times* we are enabled to give some interesting particulars of the inner life of France's hard-beset capital. It appears that while the French have all along been accusing the Germans of barbarity, and while they reproached, rebuked and reviled us for permitting our ships to fit out for each other, they have themselves developed a spirit far more savage and bloody; and they glory in it, as will be seen in the story of a certain brave (?) Sergeant Hoff. This same noble Sergeant Hoff provides himself with an air gun which makes the least possible report, sallies forth during the dark hours, and when daylight comes on creeps around among the bushes and trees in advance of the outlying sentinels, and picks off a German picket. Then he slips back into the city and announces that he has bagged his tenth, fifteenth, twentieth. At his thirtieth Gen. Trochu pins him with the Cross of the Legion of Honor. He has now reached his forty-third, and is a hero within the walls. And here is another exhibition of magnanimity: A party of twenty-two French soldiers were thinking together when it was proposed to attack a Prussian outpost. No sooner said than done. They shot the sentinel and rushed upon the others before they could seize their arms, and bayoneted twelve unarmed and defenseless men, bringing away the thirteenth dangerously wounded. There are other instances of the same kind, their results are placarded upon the walls of Paris, and the superior officers applaud the bravery for their bold and daring conduct, declaring officially that such audacious expeditions reflect the highest honor upon their country. But the Parisians entirely free from censure in some respects, for they have frequently fired on parties of men, women and children who were outside the walls collecting vegetables, etc., and the blamy Prussians) can urge as an excuse that they were in a degree preventing the recirculating of Paris' currency. Provisions and fuel are helping in the murdering line for they remorselessly cut down all the avenues of trees, and the Champs Elysees, Boulevards and Bois de Boulogne are filled with stumps. The Bois de Vincennes has also suffered severely. The Parisians are hoping in spite of the [illegible] Prussians) can urge as an excuse that they were in a degree preventing the recirculating of Paris' currency. Provisions and fuel are helping in the murdering line for they remorselessly cut down all the avenues of trees, and the Champs Elysees, Boulevards and Bois de Boulogne are filled with stumps. The Bois de Vincennes has also suffered severely. The Parisians are hoping in spite of the [illegible]

FORT WAYNE, IND.

The Jenks Murder Trial—"Delusive Insanity"—Majority Against Aiding Railroad.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

FORT WAYNE, IND., December 15, 1870.

Last night the prosecution in the Jenks-Mallows murder case at Lagrange, Indiana, began to introduce testimony to establish the identity of the person who committed the murder, also the place and time. The testimony closed to-day at three o'clock. The defense introduced many witnesses, but only to fix one witness being examined. The plea of delusive insanity, which will be made by the defense, will doubtless be clearly established. The interest in the trial is very great, the court house being crowded.

The official majority against the appropriation of $300,000 to the Fort Wayne and Southern county in aid of the Fort Wayne and Pacific Railroad is three hundred and seventy-six.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS.

CINCINNATI, December 15.—The stockholders of the Cincinnati and Indiana Railroad held a meeting this morning, and adjourned to January 19 without electing Directors.

The officers of the Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Lafayette Railway held an adjourned meeting at Morris Hall, this morning. The recommendation of the joint committee of stockholders and directors recently appointed to inquire into the affairs and devise means to liquidate the floating indebtedness, affounted to $2,000,000, was adopted. There appears to be a strong desire among the friends of the road to get matters again into a satisfactory shape.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH

The celebrated Conant-Shaker case, which has been in litigation some six years in New Hampshire, has been decided by a board of referees. The Conant estate is awarded $6,166 17 as debt, and $1,000 94 as costs. The Conant heirs and Shakers reside in Enfield, where the great suit has been caused through out the various trials.

Dr. James Scott, of Ohio, has tendered his resignation as Secretary of Washington Territory.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has authorized Supervisor Cowen to investigate the settlements of fraudulent income returns made during the past year and the instrumentality of Assistant Assessor Lockman, Assessor Storms, the District Attorney and the Courts at Cincinnati. The Department denies that there has been any deep plan to defraud, in the manner charged by the newspapers. A number of discrepancies have been discovered in the returns of the late General McGroarty, formerly Collector of the Second Ohio district, but the whole amount involved is small, and will be collected without being fully accounted for. There is no charge of fraud or dishonesty in the management of his business, the signing of receipts, &c., charged, having been done by several persons who were not held by him to a rigid accountability.

A Pottsville, Pa., telegram of yesterday say s: The Western Union Telegraph Company have extended their lines in the coal regions of this State, and now have offices opened at the following places: Pottsville, Ashland, Schuylkill Haven, Minersville, Tamaqua, Port Carbon and Hazleton. Offices will also be opened at St. Clair, Minersville and Tamaqua as soon as the lines can be built. This will be hailed with very much reduced in the coal regions by the opening of these offices.

The *Pittsburgh Gazette* says the amnesty act passed by Butler is an aggravation of the wrongs already inflicted upon the people of the South through the various disenfranchising acts of the Radical Congress. It is a bill of vindictiveness. Butler thus seeks to punish the South for the estimate in which the people hold him, one of the maledictions they have heaped upon him.

At Evansville, Ind., yesterday, Mrs. Henry A. Clinton was severely burned by kerosene while in the act of filling a lamp. Her clothing caught and fire spread rapidly. She died in a few hours.

Judge Durie, of New Orleans, has granted writs of *habeas corpus* for David Fisher, John C. Oliver and Celestine Oliver, all colored, charged with killing Judge Laws and Mayor Schoenberger, of Donaldsonville. They were released, but rearrested at the instance of the State.

The gas works at Warsaw, New York, were destroyed by fire yesterday afternoon. Dr. Gates, proprietor, Mrs. Gates and two workmen were badly burned.

Prof. Wm. Chauvenet, the celebrated astronomer died at St. Paul, Minnesota, yesterday, aged 50.

The bill to create paid fire departments for Philadelphia passed councils last night, and was sent to the Governor for his signature.

The high-school building at Waterbury, Conn., was destroyed by fire last night. Loss $75,000; partially insured.

Professor Huntington reports from the summit of Mount Washington on the 11th of December, at 2 P. M.: Thermometer 22°; barometer 23.15, wind northwest; velocity of wind 91 miles per hour; snowing; clouds on the mountain very dense; thickness of frost on tip-top of house 18 inches.

POLITICAL.

RICHMOND, December 15.—The Republican State Central Committee last night adopted a resolution by only two dissenting votes, praying Congress to pass a general amnesty bill.

Ask for Karvin's Superior Cracker Meal,
In one pound papers. Bakery, 91 and 93 Liberty street.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 15, 1870.

SENATE.

Mr. MORTON, from the Military Committee, reported a joint resolution to aid several Colleges and Universities, allowing the detail of supernumerary army officers for professorships, with an amendment restricting the provisions to these officers exclusively.

Mr. SHERMAN inquired whether the bill would still leave these officers subject to be transferred by the War Department, and was answered affirmatively. The bill was passed.

Mr. BUCKINGHAM, from the Committee on Commerce, reported, with an amendment offered by Mr. Cameron, a bill to incorporate the Southern Express Company.

Mr. MORTON, from the Committee of Military affairs, reported favorably the bill to refund to the States interest on money borrowed to equip, pay and transport troops for United States service during the late war.

Mr. WILSON, from the Committee on Military affairs, reported an original bill, which was at once taken up and passed, amending the twenty-fifth section of the fourth article of the army by substituting the words, "first day of July, 1871," for the words "first day of the session of Congress in said section, so as to extend the time for mustering out supernumerary officers, etc.

Mr. RAMSEY introduced a bill to regulate the International correspondence of telegraphic messages, which was referred.

Mr. HOWARD introduced a bill providing that hereafter no tax be imposed or collected upon any unearned premiums, or unredeemable assets belonging to the contingent funds of any insurance company. Referred.

Mr. CHANDLER, from the Committee on Commerce, reported favorably, with merely verbal amendments, the bill introduced by him recently authorizing the President, at his discretion, to suspend by proclamation the operation of all laws allowing the privilege of bonding and transportation of foreign merchandise assigned to Canada and Mexico, and also the privilege of landing waters of the United States to Canadian vessels.

At 10 o'clock the Senate, on motion of Mr. SCHURZ, took up the resolutions offered yesterday by that Senator, declaring in favor of the amnesty act passed by Congress on the 10th so soon as the imperative public necessity which dictated their imposition had ceased. Mr. SCHURZ delivered an address of considerable length, to which the Senate listened with marked attention, in which he reviewed many of the party division in Missouri, for which he said he and those who acted with him have been denounced as traitors by the Republican party in New York city; but that Senator would agree that the abomination was agreat deal worse than the crime. He had not come under the cover of law, as in Missouri, as in the case of the Fifteenth amendment to the ballot box, as in New York and Philadelphia.

In this connection he characterized as unjustifiable the action of the Governor and Legislature of the Missouri boll had anything to do with the Fifteenth amendment, according to the decision of Washington. Personally his convictions lead him to oppose the protective system. Had the party in power not been blinded with success, it would have seen that the principle of the country will not support the present Republic, not because it is Republic, nor because they do not wish one, nor because they are not fit for one, nor because Favre has said in Paris that "the Republic will be the best," but because it is the Republic of Paris—the tyranny of the mobs of Belleville. At the time of writing provision in Paris was for only three days' supply.

But a little later account (21st November) says that they have been reduced to three very small rations a day. Which account the Lord knows which is correct, though more than likely the latter, since it gives credulous a certain ballast of doubt. Then comes the account in the words "horse," "cat," "dog," "shoulder of dog," "cheek of dog," which appear so frequently as to arouse suspicion at least.

The defenses are spoken of as very strong, "defying assault."

The writer of the later letter is attached to the Ambulance Amicale, and he says that the desire of the French to visit them is unquenchable; that all the leading military men attended the show in full force, to take any interest in the soldier, have been to the front [illegible] Altogether, he says that the American is that Dr. Sulsburne (surgeon of the ambulance) has successfully demonstrated electricity to be a powerful agent in healing soldiers, hitherto unknown to French surgeons except in theory.

EASTERN QUESTION.

A Rumble from the Tounderer.

LONDON, December 15.—The *Times* protests against the attitude of Prussia towards Luxemburg, as well as against that of Russia towards Turkey. The latter power, the *Times* says the *Times*, is indefensible, but it is not the duty of England to fight.

Strength of the Austrian Army.

PESTH, December 13.—At the sitting of the Hungarian Delegation to-day, M. Benedik replied to a question, that the Austro-Hungarian army consists of 864,000 regulars, and 187,567 landwehr. The regulars possess 360,279 carbines since 1867. The regulars possess 360,279 breech-loading carbines, and the Landwehr 187,567 muzzle-loaders, of which 15,000 more are required for their armament.

Little Hope for French Success.

CHICAGO, December 15.—A private letter from France, dated November 27th, from Agent Lemoe, a prominent insurance agent, contains the following: The people, when shown the condition of military affairs in that country, as well as the special condition of the people, it will be observed that while he is full of devotion, he admits the little hope now remaining to the French. He says "I hope soon to be called into military service. I have been told that I am designated for one of our armies. We are waiting every day for the announcement of some great battle, on which depends our destinies. The preliminary engagements have been in our favor. Our Army of the Loire is not our last army, not our last resource. We have many people armed and ready, but they are merely crowds of not organized strength; but if we have some success and catch the enemy around Paris for two or three days, France will rise again stronger than before. For the present, the heaviest anxiety presses our hearts. I will do my duty to the end, and if France is defeated I wish to die in some struggle. If I remain alive I will do my best to restore her, and if this is forbidden me I intend to go to America.

INSIDE PARIS.

Notes on the Daily Life of the Doomed Capital.

From the late correspondence of the New York *Times* we are enabled to give some interesting particulars of the inner life of France's hard-beset capital. It appears that while the French have all along been accusing the Germans of barbarity, and while they reproached, rebuked and reviled us for permitting our ships to fit out for each other, they have themselves developed a spirit far more savage and bloody; and they glory in it, as will be seen in the story of a certain brave (?) Sergeant Hoff. This same noble Sergeant Hoff provides himself with an air gun which makes the least possible report, sallies forth during the dark hours, and when daylight comes on creeps around among the bushes and trees in advance of the outlying sentinels, and picks off a German picket. Then he slips back into the city and announces that he has bagged his tenth, fifteenth, twentieth. At his thirtieth G

The Daily Commercial.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1870.

Up to last evening there had been shipped down the Ohio, during the present "rise," 4,080,000 bushels of coal on 285 boats and barges. A strong desire is felt to learn what occurs to them when they reach the obstructing bridges. If all should escape destruction or injury it would be something remarkable.

THE salary of General PLEASANTON as Commissioner of Internal Revenue will be four thousand dollars a year less than he now has as Collector in New York, and the duties are far more arduous. It has been suggested, therefore, that he may not accept the new appointment, but on that point it is probable that the President was fully assured before announcing the appointment.

RELATIVE to the alleged arrangement between the Pennsylvania Central and New Jersey Railroads, the Newark *Courier* says: "We have the best authority for pronouncing this statement untrue, and that the reported arrangement between the several companies is utterly without foundation in fact. No consultation of the kind has ever taken place, and the whole account, as published in the New York and Philadelphia papers, is a fabrication out of the full. In the matter of lessing—as between the railroads—the boot would probably be on the other leg." Now out of what has proceeded so much talk, and who is it that has the inventive skill to "fabricate" so large a story "out of the full?"

SENATOR CATTELL has written a letter to a member of the New Jersey Legislature in which he says that he has finally determined to retire from political life, and will not be a candidate for re-election to the Senate, by reason of failing health. He is one of the most intelligent and useful members of that body and his loss will be universally regretted, more especially for the reason that renders his decision necessary. Ex-Senator FRELINGHUYSEN, CORTLANDT PARKER and CORNELIUS WALSH are the leading Republicans for Mr. CATTELL'S seat. Secretary ROBESON is sometimes mentioned in the same connection, but he says that he is not a candidate. The New Jersey Legislature is Republican on joint ballot.

OF the various reports of the year none is upon a subject of more vital interest to the national welfare than that of General HOWARD, upon the education of the freedmen, that is given in another column. We have freed these people, given them suffrage and all the rights of equal citizenship, and they must be educated, or all else that has been done will be in vain. It needs no prophetic spirit to foresee the hazard to a popular government from having among its citizens so numerous a body, peculiarly liable to act upon common impulses and at the bidding of demagogues, unless education qualify its prejudices and directs its action. It is for the nation's welfare that all the citizens should be educated to an intelligent and independent exercise of their rights, but it is particularly a public duty to see that this shall be done in the case of these people, whom the Republic has treated as its wards. There is practical wisdom, therefore, in General HOWARD'S recommendation, "that the whole subject of national education be carefully received and considered by Congress, and that measures be devised, through co-operation with State authorities, to furnish instruction to all children of suitable age." It is a subject that Congress should not put off with any trifling treatment.

A GREAT deal of Cabinet talk is indulged in at Washington now. It seems to be agreed on all hands that the appointment of General PLEASANTON Commissioner of Internal Revenue was rather more than a surprise to the friends of Acting Commissioner DOUGLASS. Some aver that Pennsylvania is to be appeased by the appointment of Mr. FORNEY in the place of Postmaster General CRESWELL, who is to vacate for a foreign mission—a programme probably more hoped for than believed in by CAMERON, FORNEY Co. Another report places Mr. SCHOFIELD, of the Erie District, in the Navy Department in the place of GIDEON WELLES, who is chosen United States Senator from New Jersey, a position for which he declares he is not a candidate. Another report puts Mr. BOUTWELL out of the Treasury and appoints Mr. DELANO his successor, and JUDGE AGNEW, our near and greatly esteemed neighbor, into DELANO'S place. So Pennsylvania is in the shuffle every time, but always with a different man. We said the other day that stranger things had happened than the selection, at an early day, of a Pennsylvanian for the Cabinet, whose appointment would receive the approbation of the party. Do not these rumors favor the possibility of such a thing? The appointment of General PLEASANTON was the President's own act, and while we would have been pleased to see Mr. DOUGLASS have the position we like to see the President acting out his own judgment, in which we have confidence, as a thousand times better than the average outcome of the leaders and politicians, who think nobody is so capable as themselves to "run" the government, and make and unmake Presidents.

ANOTHER correspondent calls our attention to the fact that the city of Pittsburg has just renewed its refusal to pay a loan created in 1839 and due in 1870, in coin, as required by law and the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States. The authorities of that city base their refusal upon dishonorable grounds, upon the idea that the cost of a law suit will force their creditors to accept depreciated paper for their just claims in coin; and so they may, but those officials fail to see that the city gains in this way is lost ten fold in credit. —a realizing sense of which must come directly home to Pittsburgh, as that city is at this very time on the market for a 7 per cent. loan. Who will lend money to such a borrower?—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

The above is an unjust and malicious attack upon the municipal credit of Pittsburgh. It is true, tens of thousands of bold municipal bonds have been paid, within the current year, in greenbacks—the holders in every case consenting to take currency. In some instances there may have been dissatisfaction; but not a single suit has been brought for the recovery of gold. A great many holders make no demand for gold whatever, and whenever we hear a growl about "dishonorable conduct," it comes from some "correspondent" in the city of "Brotherly Love"—some exacting holder, who, while consenting to take what other creditors have taken, still craves his "pound." The *Ledger* might better have applied its remarks at home, since Philadelphia not only settles her ante war loans in "depreciated paper," but has several hundred suits pending for the recovery of coin, which she has refused to pay. If there is anything to boast of in this matter on the part of Philadelphia, we fail to perceive it. As to the loan which Pittsburgh is now negotiating, we can assure the *Ledger* and its "correspondent" that we have no serious apprehensions of failure to secure all the money we require. Of the one million loan authorized, we are well advanced in the third quarter, and much of it has been and is now being taken by Philadelphia capitalists. The credit of Pittsburgh is too well established to be affected by ill natured flings such as we have quoted above. Philadelphia, to meet pressing obligations, has been forced to sell the bonds of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. Is her credit so poor as not to be able to sell her own?

INTERNAL REVENUE COMMISSIONER.

All reports agree that the appointment of General PLEASANTON Revenue Commissioner created a decided sensation in Washington, particularly in the Pennsylvania delegation, who, it seems, supposed that they had the assurance of the President that the appointment to be conferred on Mr. DOUGLASS. As to this, however, they were mistaken, and must have misconstrued what the President did, as well as what he did not say. Here is what Mr. FORNEY says on the subject through his *Press*:

> It was rumored yesterday that the President had determined to appoint General PLEASANTON Commissioner of Internal Revenue. The rumor, however, was not generally credited, especially as the President last week had intimated to the Pennsylvania delegation that he would appoint Mr. Douglass to the place. The Pennsylvania delegation is not only surprised, but indignant. They expected that as Pennsylvania had no place in the Cabinet, and no other appointments of any account, they would get the Commissioner of Internal Revenue at least. At this writing it is not known what motives influenced the President in appointing General Pleasanton. It is conceded that in point of ability Mr. Douglass is every way equal to Pleasanton. As regards experience, he is far his superior. The President himself has admitted on several occasions that Mr. Douglass was a fit man for the place. The hopeful part of the delegation from your State take courage by imagining that the President will offer Pennsylvania a place in the Cabinet.

Last week General Logan protested against the appointment of Pleasanton, as did also Senator Fenton, on the ground of general unfitness for the place, but all to no effect. He is but the choice of either of the New York Senator's.

WANTED—A PUBLIC LAND POLICY.

It would be very surprising if the Washington lobby should not swarm this winter with manipulators of land grant schemes. The systematic spoliation of the public domain has been going such a number of years, that many have come to look upon it as a goose to be plucked at every opportunity. With some, land-grabbing has become a profession. At every session of Congress, new plans to get rich at national expense are concocted, and thrust upon Senate and House with unwearied assiduity, in the shape of bills to donate to TOM, DICK and HARRY, of whom the people know next to nothing, vast numbers of acres to aid in the construction of some railroad or canal, or to contribute to the success of some other project of material development, by private enterprise. An astonishing amount of ingenuity is exhibited in devising these schemes, whose name is legion. At the rate the national lands are disappearing under these frequent and prodigious gratuities, it cannot be many years more before every foot of ground suitable for pre-emption and homestead settlement will pass from the hands of Government into the hands of opulent and powerful corporations. While the area which remains unappropriated may appear vast in the tabulated statement of square miles of public domain which annually appears in the report of the Commissioner of the Land Office, it must be borne in mind that this aggregate covers much that is useless for the purposes of tillage—vast tracts of sterile alkaline surfaces; extensive and numerous mountain declivities and inaccessible chasms; expansive lakes and other sheets of water; and swamps that never will be drained until a dense population and accumulated wealth shall be equal to the task of subduing them to the wants of man. What proportion this superficies bears to the whole, it is impossible to determine with exactness, in the absence of official surveys, yet the relative quantity must be very considerable. These impenetrable fastnesses and inhospitable spots, as may easily be imagined, are not favorites with those who seek donations of the national soil. Indeed, they would show very little judgment or tact, did they not select the very best regions practicable for incorporation in their several bills. We may go even further and reasonably assume that these land beggars know the value and location of their grants much better than the Senators and Representatives who vote them away.

While these precipitous wilds, submerged areas, saline wastes and yawning chasms many one day become exceedingly valuable for their mineral wealth, transportation resources and landscape picturesqueness, they at present possess almost no utility or attractions for the hardy pioneer of civilization, who, in the choice of a settlement, must be guided by the obstacles which nature opposes to his individual exertions. The advancing tide of population may ultimately find in these cliffs, fissures, wastes and waters the most profitable or desirable part of their surroundings, as mining, residence or other property; but just now the very attributes that will, in days hence, add to the desire to possess and occupy them, are the very ones which most detract from their usefulness. In making land grants, then, in aid of private enterprises, it is manifest that every successive donation diminishes the area which commends itself to the frontier settler, and retards the process of settlement.

It is a favorite argument among the advocates of land grants to railroad corporations, that the wilds through which these thoroughfares are built are opened to much speedier occupation and broader development than otherwise they would be; that cities, towns, villages and farms, with their concomitants of school houses, churches, newspapers, libraries, lyceums, and so on, quickly dot the landscape where nature had rioted in prodigal wastefulness and the savage held his grotesque war-dances, and that the new territories are speedily transformed into thrifty, growing States. All this is very excellent, considered apart from the rest of the Union; but, in connection with national progress, taken as a whole, we perceive many drawbacks. For instance, it could hardly be considered a blessing to have the present population of the United States dispersed equally upon the acreage of the country, so far as it is habitable. No doubt the wilderness would undergo a wonderful transformation, but the existing power of association and combination would be lost. On the other hand, could the thirty-seven States receive as permanent additions to their numbers the immense swarm of settlers now outside their boundaries, progress therein would feel an instantaneous and powerful impulse. Consequently, viewed in the single aspect of causing a rapid and widespread dispersion of our population, these land grants to aid in the construction of railroads through interminable forests or across unoccupied plains, are to be regarded as even greater impediments to than promoters of material, mental and social development. It never pays in the long run to take Progress by the nape of its neck and the seat of its breeches and force it to advance at a trotting gait.

These grants are impolite and unwise from another standpoint. We are getting so many gigantic corporations on our hands; and they begin to exhibit so much capacity to do mischief, with so much inclination to combine for purposes of self-aggrandizement, that distrust of and apprehension about them is growing up in the popular mind. Consolidation of similar interests seems to be the ruling movement of the day. In some cases, a few men known to be unscrupulous in using means to accomplish an end, have manipulated themselves into the control of wealthy companies. In this warfare for supremacy, weak competitors are unceremoniously thrust to the wall by the most inconsolastic forces, else compelled to join in the combination. Especially has this spirit been manifested within a few years past among railway corporations. The big fish are devouring the little ones. Indeed, some observing and reflective minds, who seek far beneath the surface for fundamental and initial causes, have not hesitated to avow their conviction that the great central issue of the next decade will be the constitutional power of Congress to amend, modify, nullify or supervise charters granted by legislative authority of any State in the Union, carrying with them franchises which the local tribunals have adjudicated to be vested rights. Is it politic, in view of such a vital contingency, not only to create a large number of entirely new corporations, but to make them powerful at once by endowing them with vast donations substracted from the public domain?

We gave away last winter to one company what is equivalent in size to the whole State of Kansas. Several dozen applications, based on exactly the same principle, and differing merely in the number of square miles asked for, were before Congress at the same session. Is it not about time to put an end to this wholesale gratuity business? Unless we wish to get rid of all the national lands as speedily as possible, a stand must be made somewhere and soon. Why not at once? It would be the folly of delusion to suppose that the voracious appetite of these cormorants will be satisfied so long as an inch of unappropriated soil remains to feed it. Like the daughters of the horse-leech, they evermore cry "Give! give!" What care they for pre-emption and homestead rights, provided their grasping desires can be gratified? What, at the present stage of railroad progress in this country, makes the laying of an iron track through an immense wilderness so necessary that million upon million dollars' worth of the people's property must be given away to a few men—enough to pay the entire cost of construction, even reckoning the land at the Government price? Have we not already, without foolishly seeking more, plenty of trouble in the question whether the United States or the companies are bound to pay the interest, until maturity, on the bonds issued in aid of our great trans-continental thoroughfare? These lands are an immense power into whatever hands they fall—for oppression and enslavement, if they fall into the hands of the few; for the general amelioration of the condition of the toiling masses, and their elevation in the scale of virtue, refinement and intelligence, if they fall into the hands of the many. Which result is it that we need? If the latter, can it be secured by a longer continuance of the present policy of vast donations to corporations? After all, of what comparative account are the benefits arising from the construction of any number of railroads a few years earlier than they would be constructed by private enterprise?

It is getting to be high time to have a correct, fixed, stable policy as regards our public domain. We have hitherto given it away with prodigal lavishness to companies, to colleges, to canals, and in bounties to soldiers. The companies held their gratuities with a tight grip until many times the government price could be realized in sales to actual settlers; the colleges, in many instances, disposed of their scrip at half of its face value to opulent individuals or soil-hoarding combinations; the canals employed their acres for purposes of selfish aggrandizement; the soldiers did not want farms on the frontiers, but money, and so generally parted with their warrants in open market, where they were bought up by speculators. In future, we should reserve what is left of the national domain for actual settlers, letting no man have more than he can cultivate with his own hands and with the help of his children. Unless we adopt this rule soon, the time is not far off when our Government will have no more cheap lands to sell to its citizens. If statisticians are right in predicting, on the basis of past increase in population, that the United States will have in 1900 at least one hundred million inhabitants, it is plain that the offspring of the rising generation will bitterly feel the effects of our egregious folly in donating away the areas of whole States, which they will be compelled to bring back, at a high price, from that very landed aristocracy whose foundations we are now laying broad and deep. The cry of the people should be, "No more land grants, unless demanded by the dictates of the soundest and most comprehensive national policy, which shall be plain to the common sense of all.

SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS.

The story of Pittsburgh growth and prosperity, as told by the late census took by surprise even those most familiar with the boundless resources of wealth, environing, for miles, our city, yet all centering here as the great focal point of use and distribution. Greater surprises are in store, as it is very apparent that Pittsburgh has really just entered upon that expansion and growth which is to give her rank among the leading inland cities of this continent. The converging net-work of railroads, leading from every point of the compass to this grand center of manufacturing industry, bearing the mineral wealth of inexhaustible mines into our workshops, to be manipulated into a thousand forms by skilled artisans, guarantee a future of unsurpassed prosperity. The Central Railroad stretching out its arms from sea to sea—the Allegheny Valley, penetrating the oil and lumber region—the early completion of the Pittsburgh and Charleston Railroad, passing through vast fields of coal, iron ore and other minerals, and the now almost completed extension of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad to Cumberland, connecting with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, opening up uncounted acres of various mineral deposits, giving an independent line of trade and travel with the East, and the promise of a speedy additional Western outlet, offer assurances of such vast results as to gratify the most ardent citizen.

These more recent railroad enterprises, have and are continuing to open extensive areas of iron deposits. Coal, which has been such an important article of shipment, by river and rail, is almost without limit, and still their completion and projection railroads are still opening up new fields and affording new outlets east and west. We have now to add to the leading articles of shipment Connellsville coke, which is assuming a magnitude and importance entirely unlooked for. The Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad, and its extension to Cumberland, passes through immense deposits of a pure, soft, bituminous coal, peculiarly adapted for coking, which, for smelting ores, has no equal in the United States. This new trade is an appendage of Pittsburgh wealth, and we rejoice to record its rapid development. Several large companies are now in successful operation, near Connellsville, with offices and transfer yards in this city. All these companies have large orders from all parts of the West, taxing their utmost capacity. We note the recent purchase, by a party of Pittsburgh capitalists, of two thousand acres of mineral lands, including extensive veins of this coking coal. We understand that they propose to erect five hundred coke furnaces, and enter largely into this growing trade, under the general management of Captain JOHN F. DRAVO, whose energy and skill reorganized the Pittsburgh and Connellsville GAS Coal and Coke Company, making it one of the leading companies in the trade. We wish this contemplated enterprise all the success which we are certain the proposed enterprise will guarantee.

Recent purchases, in the same vicinity, have been made with a view to the erection of large furnaces for smelting iron ores, with which these lands abound. It is pleasant to note these signs of prosperity. Let a liberal policy be extended to the projected lines of trade and travel centering in our city—a watchful guardianship over our river channels of commerce, and the census of 1880 will record such a story of wealth and population as was not even hoped for.

CURIOUSLY enough Senator WILSON'S bill to prevent political assessments upon Government employes, is aimed against an evil whereof in the last election he stood in the attitude of its principal promoter. It will be recollected that it was the committee whereof Mr. WILSON was chairman, that undertook to drive a wholesale business at assessing clerks, and that it was some of Mr. WILSON'S associates—notably Senators CAMERON and CHANDLER—who raised such a howl against Secretary Cox for standing between the clerks and their oppressors that it finally led to his resignation. We are glad Mr. WILSON thinks differently now, and we will help his associate committeeman in his sympathy with him. He now proposes to punish with heavy penalties any attempt to levy political assessments on Government employes, and we hope he may succeed; but we doubt, even should the bill go through, whether it will accomplish the object for which it is intended. Still, as a manifestation of an improved public sentiment, and for the restraining influence it would exert, it would be a wholesome law.

HON. GEORGE W. JULIAN, Chairman of the House Committee on Public Lands, has compiled a useful statement of the land subsidies to railroads acted upon by the Forty-first Congress. From this it seems that bills of this character originated in the Senate, which have already passed twenty-three, granting 75,000,320 acres of land. Of these the House has, as yet, approved but two—one making a supplimental gift of 1,000,000 acres to the Northern Pacific Railroad; the other giving the Oregon Branch Pacific Railroad 4,760,000 acres. There are still awaiting the Senate's action thirty-two other bills, calling for 114,218,600 acres more. This aggregate is large, simply in the present Congress, and represents an area half-a-dozen times larger than Pennsylvania. But it will be said these lands are generally of little worth. That was thought to be true of the Union Pacific grants, yet that company last winter sold its gift lands at the rate of $4 00 per acre, to say nothing of the amount to be made by selling town sites, and generally establishing stations. Congress shall do its duty and refuse to be a party to the national endowment of railroad companies to the amount of quite a thousand million dollars, as is contemplated by the bills still pending.

IN CONNECTION with the recent discoveries of tin in Missouri and California, there is some interest in knowing the extent of the business in the other counties, whence Americans now draw their supplies, to the amount of $7,600,000 annually, with the amount rapidly increasing. England in the first half of this century carried her production, principally in Devonshire and Cornwall, from 2,000 tons up to 7,000, selling for $500 to $600 per ton. The supplies of Banca tin have been steadily diminishing, though the annual product of all the Malayan fields is worth still far from $2,500,000. German and Spain, France and Sweden also produce some amounts, but not sufficient to command great commercial importance. Australia furnished, several hundred, perhaps a thousand tons annually; and the South American Republics and Mexico, as well as Greenland have an undetermined quantities. The product of Bolivia is about 4,000 tons a year.

IN the New York market horses are dirt cheap this winter. Animals which two years ago would have commanded three hundred dollars will not fetch more than half that sum now. One explanation of the cheapness is the unexpected high price of hay, oats and other feed. A great many are selling their animals to escape the expense of wintering them. There are a large number of New Yorkers who regularly buy in the spring and sell in the autumn. They say that they can do this to much better advantage than keeping horses at hire stables during the winter months.

SMALL NOTES.

The city of Lille figures pretty extensively now at the head of dispatches. It is a strongly fortified, manufacturing town of 75,000 or 80,000 inhabitants, situated in Northwestern France, about fifteen miles from the Belgian frontier, 171 from Paris, 83 Southwest from Brussels, connected with Dunkirk, Calais, Brussels and Paris by rail. It was here that Vauban showed his greatest skill in constructing fortifications. Lille is also a very ancient city, having been begun in the seventh century, but long before that Cæsar chose the site for one of his castles, so to speak. It has had rather a hard time of it in history, being cast back and forward among French, Austrian, Spaniard, and Englishman like a base ball, but nevertheless has prospered and now can rival all England in some of its cotton manufactures.

Rothermel's great picture of Gettysburg Battle, to be unveiled on the 20th at Philadelphia, is one of the finest pictures in the country. The moment chosen for the scene is during the last grand charge of Pickett's division, July 3d, 1863. Behind a low stone wall and temporary breastwork the line of Union soldiers stretches off to the right, while on the opposite side, and nearer the foreground, fight with these the tattered and fierce-visaged rebels. In the center, and on top of the wall, stands a brawny Federal without coat, with gun clubbed to crush the skull of a rebel standard-bearer who is endeavoring to plant his flag upon the breastwork. They are both the picture of masculine strength and noble daring. On the left, a little back are Gen. Meade and staff, and in the left-foreground repose several Union dead, true to nature, as they hang over, or lie beside a damaged field-piece, that one wishes to see a burying party carry them away. By one of those delightful ironies of fate, the artist has put on placing a real canteen along side and going back to the proper viewing distance, few can tell the real from the pictured. Taking the picture as a whole it is, naturally as any picture can, the Duke of Wellington's definition of a battle, "incessant mo thing."

Long life to the "Young Men's Christian Association!" whose members go forth on the highways, and dive down into the steaming, putrid alleys, take by the hand the thief, the vagabond, the drunkard, and, calling him "Brother," seek to lead him up to a purer life with noble ends; and all hail! to the "Young Womens' Christian Association," which has just been organized in Philadelphia, and to which we called attention yesterday. They have resolved to do the same for their sex as the young men for their's. May their efforts be successful—not so much in getting their subjects to attend prayer meetings, put on long faces, and pretend reformation, but in alleviating some of the sufferings, miseries and privations which accompany poverty, vice and intemperance.

When we find a wolf in sheep's clothing we are all apt to cry out: "There are no sheep—all are wolves." Such is now particularly the case with the American Journalists in reference to clergymen. Because one here and there commits a heinous sin, they call all preachers rogues and hypocrites. Such is not the case, gentlemen; and your course merely proves that you, by losing faith in a large body of our guardians, are come to ignore yourselves, and are fast "slipping your cables from Christianity, and sailing out into the sea of unbelief in good. You had just as well say to cease to do business for the "up-in-a-balloon mining company," all editors will do the same.

Under the mountain of Kidhaneeser, since 1196 has slept Frederick Barbarossa. His beard had grown down through the marble table and his hair swept the floor. His steeds all ready for action stamped in their gloomy stables. Ever and anon the grim old sleeper would half arouse, and in dozing stupidity order forth a fellow sleeper to see if the ravens were still circling about the brow of the mountain. It was but the other day that that fellow-sleeper brought back the message that the ravens were gone, and old Barbarossa awoke in earnest, for Germany was united. The stirrings of centuries had been rewarded; the blood of thousands, shed in the cause, had borne a glorious harvest; the Rhine, the Elbe and the Danube, hundreds of noble patriots exiled from their native land for fighting in that cause—their dreams had been realized, and a united Germany, on this and the other side of the Alps, rejoiced in a united Germany, with Emperor William I. whose heart, some twenty years agone, they could have torn out. Will Germany remain united? Will those black ravens, the petty princes and kings, never again wheel around the brow of Kidhaneser to distract with their ceaseless cawing the desolate dreams of Teutonia's chiefs?

Long ago was the age of iron, then came the age of brass, and again shone bright and yellow the age of gold. Modern journalists and philosophers (synonyms) have been of varied opinion as to the age in which we live. Some have denominated it the age of humbug, others the age of corruption, again others the age of women (those who call it the latter admit that the premises upon which they base their theory are rather ambiguous as I "uncertain"), but they all are mistaken; it is the age of fairs. Fairs in New York, fairs in Boston, fairs in the Canadas, fairs in Pittsburgh, and fairs every where. Charity fairs, fireman's fairs, Baptist, Methodist, Congregational, fairs at which they gamble and at which they do not gamble. Well, fairs, if their aim is some worthily charitable object are undoubtedly good institutions and should be patronized. It is only of their management that any one can complain. When a church community raffles off (in a peculiar way) a piano, rich chair or dressing-gown, in a church filled with youth, beauty and refinement, and lighted by brilliant chandaliers, besides the light of the nineteenth century, how many shades of distinction is there between them and Bill Stubbins, when he raffles off his turkey over a greasy counter in a "back-room," lighted by a yellow tallow candle? When fair managers sell you a half dozen oysters poorly cooked for seventy-five cents, why should they not be denominated extortionists equally with the restaurateur who imposes on you?

Military executions are so prevalent in the French army at Paris, that Bourbaki has remarked: "They execute more men than manœuvres." Is this to be attributed to the fact that most of the troops are raw levies enacustomed to military discipline, and who discered mostly by regular army officers accustomed to punish severely the slightest irregularity? Does it not also reveal the weakness of the said army?

Sixty-five per cent. of the deaths in Philadelphia result from lung diseases in some shape. The Philadelphia *Day*, however, decides that this is not caused by the climate, but by improper exposure, insufficient clothing about the chest, imperfect protection to the soles of the feet, sitting in cramped positions, the external dampness from porous brick pavements, improper diet, living in close, unventilated rooms, &c., all of which apply as well to any other city as Philadelphia.

An experiment of blowing up sunken vessels has been made in the Hudson river, which will render fruitful all future attempts. The contractors by sinking ships, with these two ifs: first, if the powder chambers can be moved over the spot and sunk hastily; secondly, if the whole may be done in darkness, so that the guns of the harbor defenses may not disturb the workmen.

The breakage of British steel in working is about ten per cent., while that of American is but two per cent.

The Canadians don't do much themselves in the way of manufacturing, and therefore are in favor of having American manufacturers, start establishments in the Dominion. To this end they favor free trade and reciprocity, and are displeased that Canadian capitalists will not prefer American to Canadian interests, as to recommend protection, instead of the politicles they believe in. But there is another thing in the President's message that promises more trouble for Canada, than our last war. It is Grant's strong stand for the freedom of the St. Lawrence. A Montreal writer to the *Tribune* states that the question of American navigation of this northern Mississippi as the ticket for 1872 may be heard of soon, and that the first indications will be thrown out in Canada in such a term as to obtain an expression of opinion from the American people. The Independence party have been strengthened lately by M. Joly, in the Quebec House, declaring that the cause is right, and by an article in the *Canadian Guardian*, the Wesleyan organ, acknowledging the spread of the doctrine. The general tone of the message elates the annexationists, who have been in correspondence with leading American politicians, and have established a "literary" society, to which Butler Sumner and other Americans will lecture this winter. Another most significant item is, Montreal is that a well known New Yorker is there negotiating to start an American organ.

It seems that the English workingmen, although able to rally by thousands when "blowling" is to be done, are perfectly indifferent to the positive franchise they have at their opportunity, and when they can elect men from their own ranks to represent them in the school boards. Thus, in the Metropolitan District, Robert Applegarth, the only living one of their leaders, was defeated, as were the three other working-class candidates, the workingmen, save the Roman Catholics of the district, either staying away from the polls or giving their votes to the lords and marquises and members of Parliament.

In London the three lady candidates were elected, as were five of the eight Catholic candidates. Indeed the Roman Catholics everywhere have got a full share of the members, and the Secularists, who oppose religious education, are "simply" nowhere. A letter to the *World* says that in Leeds the election resulted in the choice of five Church of England men, two Roman Catholics, five United Liberals, and five Independents. In Gateshead the five elected are six Church of England men, two Roman Catholics, two Methodists and one Unitarian. In Sheffield, four Conservatives, three Wesleyans, two Unitarians, one Independent, one Roman Catholic, three Methodists and one Quaker.

It seems queer to us in America to have religious ideas the subject of party divisions, but the day may not be very far distant when a like experience shall be ours, if the agitators of "the Bible in the schools question," not content to let well enough alone, shall press that as an issue.

A New York letter says: "Parties who have a direct interest in the appointment of Assistant Treasurer Schenck at the English mint are beginning to be somewhat nervous lest the council in urging a settlement. In fact, it is understood here that he will go out with special instructions on that subject, and with the understanding that he will insist upon a definite disposition of it by the British Government. It was the intention to invite General Schenck to a complimentary farewell banquet here before his departure, but on the suggestion that there had been too much feasting already to Ministers to England, the intention is overruled.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Indiana still has a foreign debt of $430,340 12, and a domestic one of $4,731,267 82, of which $2,531,316 15 is school fund. The redemptions last year amounted to $1,235,522 34.

Cincinnati men complain that it is New York and Washington that have broken up the "Red Stockings." In the former city Tammany pays big salaries, only requiring the men to play with the Mutuals. In the latter city the Government, it is claimed, does about the same thing by the Nationals, and in Boston the way is to have the city pay $4,000 for the sod from the Union Club's grounds.

A Dr. Logan thinks the derangement of digestion incident to cases of pulmonary consumption prevents the phosphates contained in the food from undergoing oxydation in the stomach; but instead of this they undergo a peculiar abnormal change or transformation into gray tubercle, which become deposited in the lungs, and, by acting as a foreign or irritating substance, causes ulceration, identical with the festering occasioned by irritating matter in other parts of the body. He recommends that thirty or forty drop doses of dilute nitric acid be taken after each meal, as it will supply the nitrogen, which is more necessary than the phosphate, heretofore supplied by phisicians, as Dr. L. thinks, with most damaging results.

A lady lecturer in Newark, N. J., stated that the largest theater, and the largest circus, and the largest distillery in the United States were owned by women, and she might have added, the women she referred to lived in Cincinnti. The Newark *Courier* further adds: "Among the most successful business people of our city are women."

JOHN ALLEN, the "wickedest man" in New York, is outdone by the "wickedest woman" in New York, who has felt the sin of her ways and changed them. Annie Russell, keeper of the most disorderly place in the miserable Fourth ward, having repented, has caused all the furniture of her Water street bagnio to be literally "broken up" with axes, and it is now to be used as a place of worship. This converstion result from attendance at the "House for Women," at John Allen's old place, where noon-day prayer meetings have been held every day since its establishment. A bit of instruction is contained in the statement that, in 1866, she had left Water street, as she confidently believed, never to return, and had moved to a quiet locality up-town. Here for some months she lived in quiet and was at first treated kindly by her neighbors. She furnished her house neatly, and all the past appeared to be forgotten. But Tom Norton, unwilling to lose the rent of the house on Water street, began systematically the work of driving her back to her old place and occupation. He talked with the frequenters of the low rooms in the vicinity and others until her former history was known by all her new-found friends. She did not hear of his actions for some time, but noticed that she was shunned, and she became so miserable that she sought her old abode on Water street to drown her agony. She says it was a cruel alternative, but she felt compelled to choose it. All who have seen and talked with her at this time are encouraged to believe in the sincerity of her conversion. It is said that she paid the rent upon the house which she lately occupied up to January 1, and that as long as the cold lasts the Bethel shall be found in the chapel room. She prays very fervently for herself and all her wretched sisters in Water street. It has been ascertained that she has considerable money and owns several houses up-town. She has placed the whole of her property in the hands of the missionary of the Home, and intends to devote the rest of her life to saving fallen women. The best assurance of her sincerity is the utter hatred which she has for the property and money acquired by this means. On entering the Home she cast off a massive gold ring as saying that "it was the wages of sin, and she never wanted to see it again."

HUGH ALLAN & Co's purchase of the Northern Transportation Company's thirty lake propellers is of more account than a mere change of ownership of so many vessels, large though the number be. The Buffalo *Express* gives a letter from a gentleman visiting Montreal, who says: "Mr. Allan by controlling these propellers will be able to give bills of lading at Chicago and Milwaukee for direct consignments of grain, flour, provisions, etc., to London, Liverpool, Glasgow, Belfast, etc. These facilities for shipping will be enjoyed by the produce of the West this way exclusively, but not by that of the Erie Canal, and New York city, and unless there is something done to prevent it the diversion of the trade from the West will largely increase from year to year, giving to British bottoms a large proportion of the traffic that is legitimately American. Montreal is the richest city of its population on the American continent, and, though the people are generally fogy and conservative, the city enterprise is steadily forcing to the front. In the matter of harbor property. Wheat can be brought by propeller from Chicago to Montreal for fourteen cents per bushel, and freighted hence to Liverpool for 6d as cheaply as from New York. From this view, unless tolls are taken off on the Erie canal, why will not the wheat come this way?"

A WASHINGTON dispatch to the Philadelphia *Inquirer* says:

> R. D. Garrett, of St. Louis, is here, and it is understood holds in his pocket a commission from Governor McClurg, of Missouri, as United States Senator. The resignation of Mr. Drake will be sent in the last of the present week and Mr. Jewett will take his seat on Monday next. The new Senator is a lawyer and is about six-ty-five years of age, and is a personal friend of Mr. Drake, and will, while in the Senate, vote for whatever the latter favors.
>
> It is to be hoped that the new Senator is not the mere shadow of Mr. Drake or "any other man," and will vote independently. The dispatch probably does him injustice.

TAKING it for granted that Mr. Hooper will succeed Mr. Schenck as Chairman of the present committee on Ways and Means, The Springfield, Mass., *Republican* remarks as follows: "A fine opportunity will thus be afforded the Boston member to signalize himself by bringing out his old and sensible ideas of a moderate tariff and a currency with as much of specie and as little of paper in it as possible. The weight of the extreme protectionists and paper money men being lifted off from him, he will be free at last to ask Congress to listen to and respond to the reformed tariff and currency principles with which he astonished the old fogies of Boston, and distinguished himself, on his entrance into public life as a member of the Massachusetts Legislature. He has represssed himself and his principles in Congress too long; but now is his opportunity."

BUSINESS men of Pittsburgh, as well as other cities, will be glad to read the following, clipped from the Philadelphia *Inquirer*. A very valuable discovery has recently been made, by which anything printed can be copied by the ordinary method of the letter press, so that any blank gives a perfect impression of the printed as well as the written page. The subtle ingredients of this printing ink are so decided that the impression taken is complete and admirable in every respect, sharply defined and beautiful. Time will not affect the qualities of the ink, it being as readily copied months after printing as at the first. Messrs. Hollenbeck and Lea, at the northeast corner of Chestnut and Fifth streets, are now filling orders for printing by this new process.

ESTIMATES of the value of the cotton crop for this year differ very materially, and the most accepted authorities at the South are as much at variance in this respect as they usually are in their speculations about the extent of the crops. The Macon *Telegraph* fixes the aggregate product at four millions of bales, with a value of $200,000,000. In connection with the general subject, it is stated that the reduction of cotton values is already having the effect of diminishing its production in the East Indies and other countries. If the same result should be produced in the Southern States, and the energy being diverted from cotton into various pursuits, cotton-planting would not only become profitable in itself, but the planter would be protected against such ruinous fluctuations as this European war has occasioned, by other resources. Even the experience in the past does not yet seem to have been followed by practical wisdom.

BREECH-LOADING cannon do not seem to be carrying the day in England against muzzle-loaders. A protracted trial, continued through several months, by a committee of eminent artillery officers, of 12 pounder and 9-pounder brought iron breech-loaders, and 9 pounder muzzle-loading bronze India guns, has just been finished. Three 12 pounder and three 9-pounder breech-loaders, and six 9 pounder muzzle loaders were used. They were tried in every way; in batteries, at drill, dismounted and mounted, and traveling, and put to other tests, with shrapnell shell, segment shell, common shell, and case shot. The result thus far has been, that the committee recommend to the War Office captain Maxwell's 9-pounder muzzle-loading gun as superior in range, precision, projectile force, penetration and initial force, to the 9-pounder breech-loaders with which it has been tried.

A LETTER from Florence, Italy, says, "The sensation for the Florentine quidnuncs the past week, has been made by the passage, through the streets of the elephants, camels, horses and troopers of an American circus company. People wonder how so great a caravan could wander so far. But public curiosity was at its highest pitch, and the animals was capped when the master of the ceremonies, Pilbrow, drove in his twenty-six horses, hitched to his triumphal car through the town. The streets were thronged as for a holiday, and, as the abroad angle of some narrow, ancient passage was skillfully turned, the crowd gave their applause as heartily as if to some successful hero returning from a fight. It was for the people a novelty, and for a new thing the Florentines are forever on the hunt."

THAT the next Pope will be an Italian is unlikely, at least it is considered impolitic by a large party, said to be the Ultra Montanists in connection with the Jesuits, who are urging Pius IX to fill up the vacancies in the Sacred College. A letter from Rome says that in view of the opinion that a foreigner should succeed to the Pontifical chair, the candidates to the college put forward for nomination are Dr. Manning, Archbishop of Westminster; Monsignor Dechamp, Archbishop of Malines; Monsignor Le Dondewelt, Archbishop of Posen; all of whom will be included in the next creation of cardinals. The Italian cardinals, as might be expected, are, as a body, opposed to the movement, and it is doubtful whether Cardinal Antonelli will permit the distribution of the hats if he himself has any views on the tiara.

A CHICAGO paper says business has been stagnant, quite generally, for several weeks, and is duller than usual. A principal cause of this situation is undoubtedly to be found in the peculiarity of the weather of the year. The staple productions of agriculture and fruits matured earlier than usual. This is especially true of fruits. They were put on the market, by the producers, about a month earlier than usual, on the average. Then the fall has been unusually long. Winter has not yet begun. The Mississippi river is not closed up-right before this time, from St. Paul to Keokuk, but not had enough ice in it to make a harvest.

A squad of Philadelphia police on Saturday night examined a lot in the neighborhood of Twenty-sixth and Parish streets, and found a hole, about six feet deep and eight feet square, had been dug, covered with boards, and dirt spread over

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

THURSDAY EVENING, December 15, 1870.

—The local money market developed no changes to day in its general features. Bank officers continue to report money close, and discounts light. We discover no improvement either in the supply or rates in the open market. It requires exceedingly good paper for the brokers to be able to place.

—The Government bond market has been steady but dull, prices varying but little from yesterday. The foreign bankers are doing nothing, while the large dealers are also standing off, and the party of stock operators recently made up to advance the price seem anxious to get more bonds before carrying prices up. The large currency balances in the Treasury and the avowed purpose of the Secretary to reduce the bonded debt as rapidly as possible encourage the belief that extra purchases will be made before the close of the year.

Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.	Clos'g.
U. S. Bonds '81	113¾	113¾	113¾
U. S. Bonds '62	107¼	107¼	107¼
U. S. Bonds '64	107¾	107¾	107¾
U. S. Bonds '65	107¾	107¾	107¾
U. S. Bonds '65 1st	110¾	110¾	110¾
U. S. Bonds '67	110	109¾	109¾
U. S. Bonds '68	110¾	110¾	110¾
10-40's	109¾	109¾	109¾
Gold	111¼	111¼	111

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	111
U. S. 6s, 1881	113¾
U. S. 5-20s, 1862	107¼
U. S. 5-20s, 1864	107¾
U. S. 5-20s, 1865	107¾
U. S. 10-40s	109¾
5-20s, January and July, 1865	107¾
5-20s, January and July, 1867	107¾
5-20s, January and July, 1868	110¾
Pacific R. R. First Mortgage	113¾
Central Pacific Railroad	92
Currency Pacifics	

Speaking of the New York Stock market the *Evening Post* says that city says. There is an absence of speculative life in the market which is likely to continue until the large holders get ready to move. This may be after the meeting of the Legislature or of the triumvirate at Erie next week, or may be deferred until the new year. The market in the meantime may be as it usually is at this season for a long time past, a broker's market. Union Pacific fell back from its recent rise to 84¾@85, and has declined to 84¾@85. The recent sharp decline in this and in the land grant and income bonds of the company seems to have resulted from a quarrel among the directors and large operators in the stock, and report says that this worketh to depress prices have not only used the artifices common to Wall street, but have extended them in many instances. The *Tribune* remarks that if, as some people appear to think, there is a prevalent confidence in the market values of railway stocks, and it we have exaggerated the business at the Stock Exchange, it is very strange that the responses to liberal dividends should be a decline in the stocks. The truth is that a species of "dry rot" is setting in among the railways, and the effect is injurious to some of the best lines. * * * Within a few months have been a decline in the Boston market of the Erie from 29 to down to 22¾, with a corresponding decline in the market of nearly equal to the great swindle [illegible] in 1857-8. We have a fall [illegible] and Cleveland from 97 [illegible] Indianapolis and Cincinnati [illegible] point it still [illegible] considerable [illegible] roads and one [illegible] Midland—but a few [illegible] above par and paying [illegible] examples are striking and [illegible] lines [illegible] which railway inflation has reached, [illegible] arrived.

[illegible] arnings of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railway Company for the fourth week in November, 1870, were:

	1870.	1869.
Freights	$33,815 94	$34,117 68 Dec. $301 74
Coal	22,607 40	11,342 85 Inc. 10,724 55
Passengers	14,706 87	14,136 40 Inc. 570 47
Miscellaneous	5,800 00	3,400 00 Inc. 2,200 00
Total	$76,930 31	$63,196 93 Inc. $13,733 38
Add 3 weeks	187,394 69	154 239 50 Inc. 28 155 19
Total 4 weeks	$256,325 00	$219,435 83 Inc. $36 949 17

—The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo building, No. 80 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the several sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

December 15, 1870.	9:30 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	1:30 P. M.
C & H	91¾	91¾	91¾	91
Boscrip	87	87	87¼	86¾
Erie	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾
Reading	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾
Harlem				
Mich. Cent	120¾			
Lake Shore	92¾	92¾	92¾	92¾
Ill. Cent		93¾		
Cleve. & P	104	104¼	104¼	104¼
C. & A.	73	73	73	73
Do pref'd	83¾	84¼	84¼	83¾
Rock Isl	109	109¼	109¼	108¾
Ft. Wayne	58	58¾	58¾	57
Do pref'd	80¾	80¾	81	80
Wabash		50¾		50
Do pref'd				
W. U. Tel	70¾	70¾	70¾	70¾
Quicksilver				
Pacific M	41¾	41¾	42	40¾
Adams Ex		65	64½	
Wells-F		31¾	32	
American		46	44¾	
U. S		70	69½	
10-40's	111¾	111¾	111	111

A comparison between yesterday's and to-day's quotations shows the following changes:

	Wed.	Thurs.	Adv.	De
Central & Hudson	91½	90¾		1
N. Y. Central scrip	89¾	89¾		¼
Erie	23¾	23¾		¼
Reading	93¾	93¾		¼
Michigan Central	120¾			
Lake Shore	92¾	92¾	92¾	92¾
Illinois Central	134	133½		½
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	104¾	104¾		¼
Chicago & Rock Island	109¼	109¼		¼
Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne	58¼	58¾		½
Chicago & Northwestern	72¾	73	¼	
Do. preferred	83¾	83¾	¼	
Northwestern	82¾	82¾	¼	
Do. preferred	93¾	93¾	¼	
Rock Island	109¼	109¾	¼	
St. Paul	58	57		1
Do. preferred	80¾	80		¾
Wabash	50¾	50		¾
Do. preferred				
Ft. Wayne	91½	94½	¾	
Ohio and Miss	30¾	30¾		¼
Pacific Mail		40¾		¾
Adams Express	65¼	64½		¾
Gold	111¼	111		¼

—Messrs. Bowen & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

Pennsylvania Central	81
Philadelphia and Erie	27
Lehigh Valley	58
Catawissa preferred	37½
Oil Creek and Allegheny Railroad	33½
Lehigh Valley Railroad	59½
North Pennsylvania Railroad	46
Sunbury and Amboy Railroad	19
Schuylkill Navigation	16½
Reading	48¾

—There was a further decline in Pennsylvania Railroad shares to-day, amounting to ¾ a share. Reading dropped ⅝ a share, which is equivalent to 5¾, with dividend added.

—Last week there was unusually large sales of Pennsylvania Railroad shares in Philadelphia, chiefly at declining rates, and it was stated that an attempt was being made on the part of the great railroad competing interests of New York to get control. The Philadelphia *Ledger*, however, states that this was merely the rival of the story of a year and a half ago, and says:

"Intelligent capitalists at New York, and in various parts of the country, as well as in Europe, were then, and from time to time have been since, buyers of this stock, but solely, as far as we can learn, as a desirable investment, paying more than par annum on its cost price, and not with any special view to its control or the absorption of its business. The stock never has been a speculative favorer held in large blocks; but having been originally subscribed for in small amounts for investment, to a large extent remains in its original shape. Last week's activity in the stock is thus explained. The city of Philadelphia has a small loan of some $800,000 maturing on the 1st of January next, and to provide the means necessary to meet it the gentlemen having charge of the sinking fund decided to sell 5,000 of the 5,000 shares of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The company was informed of this purpose, with the offer made to it to take at the market if the officers desired. They did not, and the 5,000 shares were put into the hands of a broker and publicly sold at the stock board."

—JAMES W. KENNEDY, Broker, No. 80 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building), dealer in Government, State and Municipal Bonds; Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Represented daily at the New York Stock Exchange, and buys and sells stocks on a margin for the same commission and on the same terms as the New York brokers. Money to loan in sums of $500 and upwards on collateral or well indorsed promissory notes, or on mortgages on city or Allegheny county real estate.

IRON MARKETS.

PHILADELPHIA.

December 14.—In pig iron there is very little movement, but prices are without material change. No. 1 coke at $24@25. No. 2 do. ground at $23@24. Scotch pig and iron are neglected. Scotch pig sells at $32@33.—*North American.*

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, FRIDAY, December 16, 1870.

REMARKS.—The market since our last has undergone no material change as relates to prices or demands. The weather, though not cold, has a "wintery" appearance, and the prospects are that we shall soon have a real "spell" of old fashioned winter. The run of coal has been heavy on the late rise, amounting in the aggregate to 3,500,000 bushels. It needs no politician or economist to calculate the amount of good these shipments will do, not only to the consumers below, but to the general business community at home—the former will get cheaper fuel, and the latter will receive in return heavy drafts of money, which will quicken trade and enable merchants to square their yearly balances. Flour—The market was steady with a fair trade demand. The leading houses are well supplied, and are doing a good local business, and occasionally supplying other markets with a few hundred barrels. Whisky—The advance in whisky is still maintained, and the tendency is upward. With regard to prices we have no change no note. Sugars are still held at the recent advance. Pork and Provisions—New receipts of meats are more plentiful, and should the cool weather continue, an abundant supply will be thrown upon the market in a few days. The produce and local markets are amply supplied.

The following are the wholesale rates unless otherwise noted.

ASHES—The supply keeps pace with the demand. The current rates were: Refined 55@ cent, 33@34c; common 48 @ cent. 32@. Potash 7@7½c. Pearls 9@9½c @ lb.

APPLE BUTTER—The market was steady. The supply keeps pace with the demand. We can report regular sales at 7@7½c per lb.

APPLES—The receipts have fallen off since our last, 16 bbls being the amount received. The current rates were $2 @3 00 per barrel, as per quality and condition.

BAR LEAD—Sells in a regular way at 10½@ 11c @ lb.

BEANS—Regular sales made at $1 75@$2 25 @ bushel as per quality.

BEESWAX—Market firm; sales reported at 30@ 32c @ lb.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Prices still rule high. We quote at $3 25@3 50 @ cwt., and $6 50@7 00 @ bbl.

BUTTER—There is a fair trade demand; receipts 38 packages. Sales at the following: Good to fair 25@26c @ lb; choice 28@30c @ lb.

BROOM CORN—Market well supplied, with regular sales at 5@6½c per lb.

BAKING POWDER—Banner, 4-lb cans, $1 75 @ dozen; 8-lb cans $3 25; 1 lb cans, $6 00 per dozen.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—The new crop cured meats is thrown upon the market sparingly. We quote sales new S. C. hams 19@19½c; shoulders 12½c. Mess pork $20 00@21 00 @ bbl. Lard in tierces 13½c; buckets 14½c. Mince meat 10@11 @ lb.

COAL—Sales Eastern anthracite at $9 00@9 50 @ ton by the car load, delivered.

CANDLES—Sales of Cleveland white at 22 25 and Eastern at 75 @ bbl.

SEEDS—Clover seed $6 50 @ bush; flaxseed $2 10 @2 15; timothy not wanted.

SAPOLIO—In fair demand with regular sales at $6 50 @ gross.

SALT—Sales by the car load at $1 60@1 65; from store at the usual advance.

POTATOES—The market was firm with a good trade inquiry; sales of peach blows in round lots at $1 @ bush; in store $1 10@1 15.

SOAP—Sales in 5-kegs 6c; boxes, assorted papers 8c; salsoda 3½c @ lb.

HAY—Low to good supply; sales of city rendered at $18@20 @ ton.

TURNIPS—The supply exceeds the demand. We can report sales at 45@50c @ bush.

VENISON—Prices have declined to 12@ lb, and the supply is light.

WOODENWARE—Following are wholesale prices per dozen: Pails, 2 hoop, $2 40; 3 hoop $2 65. Tubs, No. 1, $6 50; No. 2, $11 00; No. 3, 2 hoops, $9 50; No 3, 2 hoops, $8 50. Washboards $3 00.

WHISKY—There has been a sharp rise in whisky, and the tendency is upward. We quote: Highwines 95c; common rectified 98c; proof rectified $1 02; rye and corn $1 05@1 10 @ gallon; old $1 00@8 00, as to age.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, FRIDAY, December 16, 1870.

REMARKS.—The market yesterday was decidedly strong but not very active, as dealers were not disposed to pay the advance. The result was only a limited amount of transactions were recorded. The general impression is that prices have touched bottom, and that a reaction will soon take place. The inquiry for crude comes principally from short sellers, as the supply is more than ample to fill all wants, and they do not want to carry more stock than they can help; but for the "shorts" prices would decline, but it is not likely that there will be much of a decline this month, as there are too many buyers and sellers, all the year, contracts out unsettled to admit of it.

CRUDE.

The current rates were for spot 9¾@9½c; December 9½@9½c, seller's option first six months 1871 9½c; buyer's option same time 10¾c.

SALES.

1,000 bbls, spot.....9¾c
500 bbls, spot.....9½c
1,000 bbls, spot.....9½c
1,500 bbls, spot.....9¾c

REFINED.

The market was firm here, notwithstanding it was dull in the East, showing conclusively that it was to fill previous contracts. The current rates were: Spot 22½@22¾c; December 22¾c; January and February 22½c; March 22¾c; buyer's option all 1871 20¾c.

(By Western Union Telegraph.)

TITUSVILLE, December 15.—The *Herald* says: Upon lower creek $3 03@3 15 was offered for regardless, and $3 45 for gravity, with sellers asking from 5 to 10 above these figures. Upon the upper creek $3 10@3 15 was bid, with sellers asking $3 20@3 25.

SALES.

1,000 bbls on upper creek.....$ 17½
2,000 bbls on upper creek.....3 15
1,000 bbls on upper creek.....3 17½
1,000 bbls on lower creek.....3 30
2,000 bbls on lower creek.....3 35
1,000 bbls lower creek.....3 37½
50 bbls lower creek 46 grav.....3 50
500 bbls lower creek.....3 55
1,750 bbls lower creek.....3 40

NEW YORK, December 15.—Closing 14th.—Crude in bulk is held steady at 12c; no sales reported. Refined is unchanged; 22c asked for cargo lots, with sales of 6,000 bbls, short delivery, part at 23c. Philadelphia delivery is dull and prices nominally unchanged at 22½c.

SHAMBURG, December 15.—Market somewhat excited at $5 10@5 15 on road.

OIL CITY, December 15.—The market is unsettled, and higher prices are asked, but buyers are not disposed to advance; 46 gravity $4 45@5 50 on lower creek, and $3 65@3 70 at Oil City; light oil 10@15c less.

PHILADELPHIA, December 15.—Market firm for futures but dull for crude. P. L. S. to W. 22c; S. W. 22½; cases 28c@30; crude; futures, January and February 22½c; March to July 23@ 24½c. Sales 1,000 bbls January and February 22½c. Crude 11c.

PETROLEUM CENTER, December 15.—Market firm at $3 30 to $3 35 for regardless.

TITUSVILLE, December 15.—About $3 15 on upper creek. Nothing doing.

(By Pacific and Atlantic Telegraph.)

OIL CITY, December 15.—Market firm; futures in good demand on lower creek at $3 35 @3 40; Oil City irrespective $3 90 gravity $4 45 @5 50; Oil City irrespective $5 lower creek irrespective $8 50; gravity $3 60.

PLEASANTVILLE, December 15.—Market quiet and not much doing at $2 75.

PHILADELPHIA, December 15, 12 M.—December 22¾@22¾; January and February 22½c; March 23c; April to June 24½c; May to July 24½c; sales January and February at 22½c. Crude 11@11½c.

PETROLEUM CENTER, December 15.—Market very firm; offering $3 40 for regardless and $3 50 for gravity.

TITUSVILLE, December 15.—Market quiet but firm; $3 15 bid for spot or sellers all year, with $3 20 asked. The general impression is that lower prices must prevail shortly.

ROUSEVILLE, December 15.—Market quiet and very firm; offering $3 40 for regardless, and $3 50@3 55 for gravity. No transactions reported.

TIDIOUTE, December 15.—The market is a good deal stronger at $3 30.

OIL CITY, December 15, 10:45 A. M.—Market very firm and active at $3 40@3 45 on lower creek, and $3 60@3 65 at Oil City.

PHILADELPHIA, December 15, 5 P. M.—Refined, December, 22½c; January and February 22½c; March, 23c; March to June 24c; May to July 24½c. Crude 11@11½c.

NEW YORK, December 15, 3 P. M.—The market is very quiet; refined easier, and could be bought at 22½@22¾, although 23c is asked. Crude is held at 12c. But there are no buyers above 12c, and in only small lots at that price.—*North American.*

No crude or refined sold to-day for spot or December delivery, but a sale of 1,000 bbls for February is reported at 23½c.

Crude Oil Received by Rail.

	Bbls.
Standard Oil Works	222
Riverside Oil Works	441
Total	3,529

Crude Oil Receipts by A. V. R. R.

D C Herbst to Standard Oil works, 221 bbls; D C Herbst to Riverside Oil works, 440 do.

Shipments of Refined Oil East via A. V. R. R., W. P. R. R. and P. R. R.

ALLEGHENY JUNCTION, PA., December 15, 1870.

Lockhart & Frew, 669 bbls to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.

Forsyth Bros, 208 bbls to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.

National Ref Co, 104 bbls to Warden Frew & co, Philadelphia.

Brann & Wagner, 300 bbls, to Waring, King & co, Philadelphia.

Citizens Oil co, 468 bbls to Tack, Bros & co, Philadelphia.

McKelvy, Bro & Co, 380 bbls to Logan, Bros & Co, Philadelphia.

Livingston Bros, 60 bbls to Tate, Miller & co, Philadelphia.

Total Shipments Refined.....2069 bbls.

Petroleum in New York.

[From the Bulletin of Wednesday.]

The New York refining interest being relatively very much smaller than that of Pittsburgh and of Cleveland, it never finds it necessary to lead in the refining interests of the country in establishing the Creek prices, but must always accept such prices as the vastly larger interests of Pittsburgh and Cleveland choose to fix at the Regulator. Two days have now passed since the official report of stock and production for November was issued. During that time the strongest efforts have been made to "bear" the market for crude here. One or two sales were evidently bid 113c per gallon for crude but no one could deliver here for less than 12 cents—for no dealer whose contract is good would go "short" for an hour on the Creek basis in its present state. Having data for two days to move the market downward by the smallest fraction, the opinion became general last evening that for a revival of hostilities in refined here, it will be necessary to wait until December, which has always been with us the home trade, shall go out of the Creek markets, and in the meantime to hold refined oil firm at 22½@23 cents in bulk, and at 23½ cents in barrels, so long as crude remains at 12 cents, and empty barrels shall not be lower than $1 80 apiece, or 4 cents per gallon space.

WOOL MARKETS.

PHILADELPHIA.

December 14.—The demand is limited but prices are without material change; 50,000 lbs sold in lots, including Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia XX at from 49@51c; X 48@49c; medium 48@50c; Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and western fine at 45@46c; medium 46@48c; coarse 45@47c; dark colored prairie lots; 40@42c for all degrades; unwashed fine 30@35c for bright lots; dark colored prairie fine unwashed 27½@29c; coarse and medium unwashed 27@29c; combing and delaine unwashed 45@47c; combing and delaine washed 58@55c for choice, and 49@51c for fair. Pulled wools sell at 38@46c for lambs and super.—*North American.*

OCEAN STEAMERS.

Date of Departures from New York.

Columbia	December 17	Glasgow.
Republic	December 21	Liverpool.
Batavia	December 21	Liverpool.
Tripoli	December 22	Liverpool.
Perelire	December 24	Havre.
Europa	December 24	Glasgow.
Russia	December 28	Liverpool.
Nevada	December 28	Liverpool.
Samaria	December 29	Liverpool.
Caledonia	December 31	Glasgow.

RIVER TELEGRAMS

Ironton, O.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

IRONTON, O., December 15, 1870.

Boats passed down to-day: Telegraph at 1 P. M. Ute Fleetwood at 12 M. River rising; clear and cold. H.

Brownsville.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BROWNSVILLE, December 15, 1870.

The river is stationary, with seven feet of water in the channel. Weather cloudy; thermometer 31° at 6 P. M.

Greensboro.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

GREENSBORO, December 15, 1870.

The river is at a stand with six feet of water in the channel. Weather cloudy; thermometer 32° at 7 P. M.

Tidioute.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

TIDIOUTE, December 15, 1870.

River thirty-five inches in the channel. Weather cloudy and cool.

Oil City.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

OIL CITY, December 15, 1870, 9:20 A. M.

River forty-three inches and falling. Weather cold.

RIVER NEWS.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

Arrived.

Elector	Bougner	Geneva.
E. Semmes	Carmack	Geneva.
Elizabeth	Houghton	Elizabeth.
Chieftain	Phillips	Geneva.

Departed.

E. Bennett	Carmack	Geneva.
Elizabeth	Houghton	Elizabeth.
Chieftain	Phillips	Geneva.
Bells	P. Donaldson	Geneva.
Ionia	Brennan	

Monongahela seven feet ten inches and falling slowly.

THE marks last evening indicated seven feet ten inches and falling slowly. The weather was cold, but not out of season. Trade on the landing was moderately active. The Ionia brought up a big trip, and returned with a similar one late last night.

The Present Run of Coal.

Below will be found some additional departures of coal to the lower market. Our report published yesterday was correct, with the following exceptions: We gave the Sam Clark 120,000 instead of 130,000; we gave the J. H. Bigley 120,000 instead of 144,000. We have added the difference to our report this day. The report we published was obtained from the parties themselves, and we think neither error in correction. The run thus far amounts to 4,080,000 bushels. Other boats are on the way up, and will return, provided the water will admit.

FOR CINCINNATI.

Tow Boats.	Boats and Barges.	Bushels.
Leopard	9	100,000
FOR LOUISVILLE.		
Tow Boats.	Boats and barges.	Bushels.
Tom Rees No. 2	12	144,000
Eagle	10	120,000
Diamond	10	110,000
Baltic	12	130,000
Dart	7	84,000
	6	75,000
	57	653,000

RECAPITULATION.

	Towboats.	B. & B.	Bushels.
For Cincinnati	9	9	100,000
For Louisville	6	57	653,000
Clark and J. H. Bigley additional			34,000
Total			787,000
Before reported	27	285	3,313,000
Grand total	34	351	4,080,000

THE big Ajax did not get out. The water was not sufficient to justify.

THE Keystone is reported to have sunk a barge below Glasshouse.

THE CarrieV. Kountz was announced to leave New Orleans for Pittsburgh on Wednesday.

THE Collier and barges, Capt. Shedden, left Louisville for this place on Wednesday.

BOAT SOLD.—The United States Marshal sold the Welcome at New Orleans last Saturday, for $5,000.

LOUISVILLE—The *Courier Journal* of Wednesday says that the Cumberland river is rising, with thirty-two inches on Harpeth Shoals.

ST. LOUIS.—Martin Lyon, the well known steamboat clerk, has resumed the business of discharging steamers at the levee.

BIG TOW.—The new towboat J. S McDonald left for New Orleans with 190,000 bushels of coal.

THE officers of the Juniata and Granite State will accept our thanks for favors rendered.

THE towboats Baltic, Eagle, and Tom Rees No. 1 have arrived, and will return on this water with tows of coal.

THE packet St. Charles left Cincinnati on time, and will return from this port on Saturday. So says Captain C. H. Drawo.

THE powerful towboat Ironsides, Capt. Gray, is receiving for Memphis and New Orleans, and will have dispatch.

THE Tom Rees No. 2 arrived yesterday and returned during the afternoon with 144,000 bushels of coal for Louisville.

THE Hawk Eye No. 2 and barges, loaded with iron ore, passed through the canal to-day, and proceeded on her way to Pittsburgh rejoicing.

We regret to learn that the towboat Fearless grounded and sunk a portion of her barges on Merriman Ripple. A portion of them will be stuck.

THE new and splendid mammoth side-wheeler Glencoe, Capt. Thos. S. Calhoun, is announced for Memphis, Vicksburg and New Orleans.

OFFICIAL survey of the Ohio river, from Pittsburgh to Cairo, giving names of landings and distances. A few copies left and for sale at the COMMERCIAL office. Price ten cents.

THE Cincinnati *Commercial* calls Captain Koontz the new steamer Kenny a "floating warehouse. Pretty correct with the exception of a single chimney,—just give her a half!

THE Knoxville *Whig* of Saturday says: "The Tennessee and Holston are still low, and but little coal is coming down. Rates are about the same they were last week. Farmers on these rivers are suffering, because they cannot get their produce to market."

THE Evansville *Courier* of yesterday says: "The boilers and machinery of the City of Evansville are being sold at auction to-day. The amount of money realized will be sufficient to pay all expenses of getting them, and profit the city the handsome sum of $2,000.

THE Cincinnati *Chronicle* makes fun of the Henry C. Yeager for having but one chimney. As she has two batteries of boilers, one on each side of the boat, will the reporter inform us how one chimney would fit two sets of boilers? Our private opinion is that the reporter never saw the boat he pretends to make fun of.

THE United States Local Inspectors at New Orleans have suspended the license of Dargenes Disgre, pilot of the Wild Wagoner, for thirty days, for causing the collision between that steamer and the Nick Longworth, on the 17th ult., in the Mississippi river, twelve miles below Baton Rouge.

THE first-class packet Granite State Captain W. H. Kerr takes her departure this day at 4 P. M. for Wheeling, Marietta, Parkersburg and Portsmouth. This boat has unsurpassed accommodations and is in charge of careful and experienced officers. Mr. Johnson, who has charge of the office, will be found attentive to passengers.

THE OCEANUS AT ST. LOUIS.—The *Democrat* of Wednesday says: Captain Cox was the recipient of many congratulations as being the owner of so large and staunch a steamer as the Oceanus, a 900 ton boat. He says she will load for the Tennessee. Of course he will encounter determined opposition. The Oceanus came in early yesterday morning from Pittsburgh with a large cargo, $3 40 for freight.

SLACKWATER NAVIGATION—WINTER ARRANGEMENT.—The United States Mail packets running between this port, Brownsville and Geneva, will leave Pittsburgh on and after this day, November 16th, at 8 A. M. and 4:30 P. M. Passengers and shippers will please bear this in mind, as the boats will leave punctually at the advertised hour. For further particulars inquire of Captain A. S. Carlile, on the wharf.

WEDNESDAY'S Cincinnati *Gazette* says: The Henry C. Yeager arrived from Pittsburgh yesterday afternoon, but in consequence of the enormous wharfage tax landed at the foot of Fifth street while endeavoring to secure a shoal. She had three hundred tons aboard, and was drawing three feet three inches. She was described by various phrases, among them "sailing low for sand," "ship boat," etc. She departed for New Orleans late last night. Flour, Meal, Seeds and Oscar Jolly, ship's carpenter, by Captain Daniel Brady, with Captain R. C. Mason, formerly of the Canada, in charge. There is not a member of the St. Louis Pilots' Association in the city who has not charged on some boat. New Orleans pilots are also scarce, and it was difficult for the Henry C. Yeager to procure two pilots to take her through.

LOUISVILLE, December 14.—The river has then two inches in the last twenty-four hours, at the head of the falls. There are now three feet five inches water in the chute down the falls, and feet six inches in the canal, and six feet on Portland bar. It is calculated there will be sufficient water on the falls for ascending boats next week. The weather is clear and pleasant. Business is fair, with no departure to-day outside of regular packets. The Collier and barges passed up last night.

A TOWN GONE TO DECAY—THE REASON WHY.—Manchester is the third town laid out in the State, and is now seventy-six years old, with a population numbering but a little over two—by far the smallest town on the Ohio river of that age from Pittsburgh to Cairo. * * * The wharfboat men charge from 10 to 25 per cent. on freight bills for permitting the unloading of the goods to transport them across their boat. The town occupies the bank, which prevents for landing at the "barn roof" that other boats are compelled to tax up larger freight bills in the end.

THE following is a list of prices for piloting steamboats over the Falls of the Ohio river for the benefit of Captains and owners:

Steamers 50 tons and under 100 tons.....$5 00
Steamers 100 tons and under 200 tons.....10 00
Steamers 200 tons and under 300 tons.....15 00
Steamers 300 tons and under 400 tons.....20 00
Steamers 400 tons and under 500 tons.....25 00
Steamers 500 tons and under 600 tons.....30 00
Steamers 600 tons and under 800 tons.....35 00
Steamers 800 tons and under 1,000 tons.....40 00
Steamers 1,000 tons and upward.....50 00

This is Custom house measurement for 1870; Pontoon 18 x 75 feet and drawing 3 feet.....$10 00
Produce boats 150 feet and 2.0 feet long.....10 00
Coal barges 120 feet and under 199 long.....5 00
Coal hulls 100 feet and under 220 feet long.....10 00
All fishing boats and family boats, $1 each.

No charge shall be charged without a special contract; but this does not prohibit the pilots from charging less without the Captain's consent.

The above is for the benefit of the Captains and owners of steamboats and the boats, to protect them from imposition as I have received some complaints made of late about the prices of piloting over our falls.

DAVID M. DRYDEN, Falls Pilot.

IMPORTS BY RAILROAD.

Per Pennsylvania Central Railroad, through.

B L Fahnestock & co, 20 bbls brick, 42 pkgs drugs, Bryant, Meil & co, 10 pkgs mdse, G. Colhoun & Son, 2 pkgs mdse, Hartman & Co, 10 pkgs mdse, Dalley, Farrel & co, 62 pcs iron pipe, 1 bx brass, 1 pkg mdse, Stetson 30 bxs raisins, 5 bbls currants, 6 bags spice, Wm Phillips, 10 pkgs mdse, Wm Graham & co, 10 bxs clay, Reymer & Bro, 150 bxs raisins, 1 bxr groceries, Smith & Co, 1 pkg mdse, Jas Dalzell, 1 pkg mdse, R R Sellers & co, 3 pkgs drugs, Vogt & Meiers, 25 pkgs mdse, Jas Marshall, 1 pkg mdse, Wm Thaw, 1 bx groceries, J F Bailey & co, 3 bdls rope, 3 bxs bolting, Hussey, Wells & co, 1 pkg mdse, Thompson & Co, 1 bx mdse, Hussey, Wa & co, 10 bdls iron, D Haworth, 1 bx rope, Jones & A Marshall & co, 1 bxr groceries, Wm Chinery, Knox, Ja & co, 1 express wagon, W Knox, 1 bbl seed, Kennedy & Hughes, 1 pkg mdse, 1 bag beans, Wallace McA & co, 5 bxs tacks, marble, W-ll, Barr & Co, 1 pkg mdse, Mallord & c, 17 bxs sweet potatoes, F Owens, 10 do do, Brueggeman & Co, 1 pkg mdse, Wm Phillips & Co, 1 pkg mdse, 1 bbl molasses, W Miller & co, 100 bags soap, McNish, 100 bbls lime, Hugh Ferrier & co, 1 pkg mdse, 1 bbl dry goods, R Hay, 1 box shoes, W Tassmore, 2 boxes resins, 2 do groceries, M Vlock, 1 box shoes, J H Bailey & co, 1 pkg mdse, J J Tassmore, 1 box books, S M Cumming, 11 bales waste, A Ortlieb, 1 bale dry goods, L McIntosh, 1 bale leather, A Voegtly, 2 buckets molasses, G Beaven, 1 box groceries, Western Pennsylvania Railroad, 1 box groceries, 5 box groceries, 5 boxes cheese, J A Herman, 1 box leather, Hughes & Hall, 1 bale dry goods, 1 bale clothing, M Keeler, 1 bale yarn, Ballliff & co, 1 cask spokes, Wm Graham & co, 1 pkg mdse, Wm Thaw, 1 pkg mdse, Fleming & Co, 1 pkg mdse, Wm Graham & co, 1 pkg mdse, Gas fixtures, J Kobert, 10 bbls corn, H Wagner, 1 bale, 1 pkg dry goods, Wm Graham & co, 1 pkg mdse, M Kenery, 2 pkgs mdse, E Rotrock, 24 pkgs groceries, Wm Graham & co, 1 pkg mdse, J J Tassmore, 1 bx groceries, H Lentz, 14 pkgs groceries, H Dalley & do do.

LOCAL.

J Wainwright, lot empty bbls and kegs, Joshua Rhodes, 1 pkg mdse, J Schwinhart, 1 horse, Wm Wallace, 1 grain driller, 1 tongue, National Plow Works, 1 plow, John Reed & co, 1 bx glassware, Pug Dunnish & Co, 1 pkg mdse, Kelly Ale Keg, R McCunnigle, 1 bale waste.

Per Pittsburgh, Ft. W. and C. Railroad.

P C Perkins & Bro, 200 bbls flour, Shoenberger & Co, 7 cars merchandise, Ritter & Mattlage, 10 bbls splints, D Chestnut & co, 100 green hides, J P Hanna & Co, 5 bbls mess shoulders, Wm Graham & co, 1 bale dry goods, Coleman, Bahm & co, 6 bars steel, H Mendel & Co, 1 pkg mdse, Austin & co, 4 bbls tobacco, Peterson, N & co, 102 dozen shoulders, Lippincott & B, 1 bale leather, Wm Young, 1 bbl tallow, Bailey & Co, 1 bbl cider, T E Brewer, 1 keg pork, M McWhinney & Co, 1 bbl pork, Wm Graham & co, 1 pkg mdse, Wm Graham & co, 1 pkg mdse, 1 bbl cider, Brueggeman & O'B, 61 boxes cheese, C & H Hilbert, 1 bbl pork, Godfrey & Clarke, 10 bbls apples, 1 do corn, Park, Phelps & co, 20 bbls spikes, Wm Graham & co, 1 pkg mdse, Wm Phillips, 1 pkg mdse, do do, Schoenacker & co, 100 bbls flour, Kohl & Bro, 1 pkg mdse, Wm Graham & co, 1 pkg mdse, 12 bundles spokes, Hare & Bro, lot shafts, spokes, etc, Reymer & Bro, 1 bbl whiskey, 1 bbl pork, 1 bbl lard, 1 bbl beef, 1 bbl hams, 1 bbl shoulders, 1 bbl sides, 1 bbl lard, Henry Rea, jr, 10 bxs butter, Hughes & Hall, 1 pkg mdse, Wm Graham & co, 1 pkg mdse, 6 bbls cranberries, 8 bbls pot

The Daily Commercial.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Opera House—Polis.
Trimble's Varieties Theater.
Academy of Music—European Novelties.
Grocery Store for Sale—Box 71, West Newton, Pa.
Experienced Teacher Wanted—Rev. H. Webber, New Sewickley Academy, Beaver county, Pa.
Farm for Sale—John Hall, Sr.
Notice—Wm. S. McElroy.
Notice to Stockholders—City Insurance Com.,any.
Rooms for Rent—No. 34 Ninth street.
Coal Miners Wanted—S. T. Mellor.
Positions Obtained—S. T. Mellor.
To Rent or Lease—260 Penn street.
Holiday Presents—R. S. Davis & Co.
Holiday Books—R. S. Davis & Co.
Jewelry—C. Terheyden.
Steinway Pianos—H. Kleber & Bro.
Pittsburgh Art Association.
Clothing—Uring, Follansbee & Co.
Notice—Peoples' Insurance Company of Pittsburgh.
Notice—State Bank of Pittsburgh.
Furniture—Lemon & Weise.
Cream Ale—Pier, Dannals & Co.
Belting and Hose for Sale—Hartley, McKee & Co.
Grated Crackers—Marvin.
New Year—Dilworth, Harper & Co.
Mercantile Library Hall—R. J. DeCordova, December 19.
Bronze Mantel and Clock Sets—Tiffany & Co.
Car Wheel Works—Gill & Bidwell.
Holiday Books—R. S. Davis & Co.
Snow Flake Flour—T. C. Jenkins & Bro.
Dnd rwear Gloves, Half Hose, &c.—Putnam's.
Pittsburgh Nickel Plating Works.
Patent Folding Bed Lounge—Lemon & Weise.
Cracker Meal—Marvin's.
Morigage Wanted—Thomas K. Petty.
Shears Wanted—Battelle & Co., Memphis, Tenn.
Hoff's Malt Extract—Tarrant & Co.
Engines, Machinery, &c.—John S. Schultze.
Flat Rails for Sale—Hitchcock, McCreery & Co.

CITY MATTERS.

METEOROLOGICAL RECORD.

Observations Made by the Storm Signal Service of the United States Army.

Pittsburgh, Dec. 14, 1870.	7:23 A. M.	4:23 P. M.	11:23 P. M.
Height of barometer, inches	30 23	30 39	30 15
Change since last report	10	16	06
Thermometer	31°	31°	30°
Change in 24 hours	0°	2°	09
Direction of wind	W	N W	N W
Velocity of wind—miles per hour	7	5	2
Pressure of wind—pounds per square foot	1	1	000
Character of wind	Fair	Fair	Fair
Beaufort scale, approximately	E	D	D
Rainfall or melted snow since last report in inches and hundredths, snow reduced to rain, or melted snow	0 15		000
State of weather	3	5	3

NOTE.—The snow did not fall in the rain gauge on account of the strong wind, therefore I put it down, as I could not measure it.

NOTES—In the telegraphic reports, only the variations of the Barometer since the last report are given; decrease being marked thus, and throughout the table by the minus sign.

Character of the winds to save space, is indicated by letters of the alphabet, as follows: A, just perceptible; B, gently brisk; C, pleasant brisk; D, very brisk; E, high wind; F, very high wind; G, strong gale; H, violent gale; I, hurricane; J, most violent hurricane.

State of the weather in the same way, is indicated by numerals as follows: 1, clear; 2, fair; 3, light rain; 4, heavy rain; 5, snow.

JAMES WEST, Observer Sergeant.

List of Unmailable Letters.

The following is a list of letters held at the Pittsburgh Postoffice for want of pre-payment of postage, and on account of misdirection. The writers can get them by applying at the Postoffice:

Cark, J. P., Clinton City, Iowa.
Ford, Dellia, Mrs., Chambersburg, Pa.
Savge, Thomas, Allegheny, Pa.
Smith, C. M., Gray's Eddy, Orrsville Post office, Pa. JOHN H. STEWART, P. M.
December 15, 1870.

LADIES' WATCHES and opera chains at Biggs & Hoyle's, No. 6 Wylie street,

ROBBED—Yesterday's COMMERCIAL told of the mysterious case of John Gibbs, of Birmingham, found lying wounded on the side walk on Market, near First street. He has not yet recovered, but claims that he was assaulted on Water street and robbed of $20.

AT HIS OWN REQUEST.—On yesterday morning Francis Tumblety, a "vet. vag." was given another four months in the work house, from which he lately got out. That will board and lodge him through the winter at the public expense.

FOREIGN STRANGERS.—Four destitute men were asking at the station house for bread yesterday, and were sent to the Young Men's Home, on Diamond alley. They have worked on a railroad at Titusville, but the contractor "lit out" without paying them, and while on the road to a job on the Connelsville, poverty overtook them.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Frank Badger, a printer who has been working in the newspaper offices here for about two months, died at his boarding house, 78 First avenue, on Wednesday evening. He had been sick only since Sunday, and when last seen, a few minutes before his death, seemed to be getting better. The deceased was about forty-five years old, and had "tramped" over almost the entire country. He originally came from Central New York.

BOLD ROBBERY.—A few days since a boll thief entered the wholesale and retail grocery of Veigl & McGraw, No. 12 Diamond, and carried off an overcoat belonging to Mr. Robert McGraw, valued at fifty dollars. A handsome reward will be paid for the apprehension and conviction of the thief. If the coat is returned, all right, no questions will be asked. The season is too far advanced to lose an overcoat, hence Mac is extremely desirous to recover his comforter.

GOLD HEADED CANES, silver and plated were at Biggs & Hoyle's, No. 6 Wylie street.

FIRE AT THE MARKET HOUSE.—This morning at half past twelve o'clock, a fire broke out in W. J. Latimer's eating saloon, located on the corner of the lower market house. The fire communicated from the store to a flooring board partition, and to two barrels of flour standing close to it. The partition was partially burned and the barrels destroyed, the flour being scattered in all directions. The prompt arrival of Hose Company No. 3 on an alarm from box five extinguished the fire before much damage was done. The loss will not exceed forty dollars.

A SUCCESSFUL LECTURE.—The large audience in the chapel of the Pittsburgh Female College last evening were more than pleased with Professor Ebell's lecture. The brilliant and eloquent manner in which the heterogeneous facts of modern science were grouped into an instructive and entertaining discourse gave good assurance to all that the lectures will be worth far more to them than the cost of admission. There will be but two more, to night and to-morrow night, and the friends of this, the good cause of enlarging the library of the Browning Association, should see that fellow young ladies have always been so generous with their excellent public entertainments.

THE YOUNG LADIES' LECTURE COURSE.—The lectures advertised to commence December 15th under the auspices of the Browning Association of the Pittsburgh Female College, have been postponed, and will commence Tuesday, December 20th, and continue Wednesday and Thursday, December 21st and 22d. The three lectures will be on the natural history of the earth, and will embrace geology, illustrated with free-hand drawing on a blackboard, and with a powerful magnesium light and microscope exhibiting views and specimens of the objects spoken of on an area of over four hundred square feet.

A Delayed Complaint.

Jacob Bollinger of Port Perry, has filed information with Alderman McMasters against Patrick Mc Laughlin and Abraham Moore, for felonious assault and battery alleged to have been committed, July 3d, 1870. The complainant avers that upon that evening, as he was going home, he was set upon by three men who demanded his money, a struggle ensued, and during the fight he was struck on the head with a blunt instrument, which knocked him insensible to the ground. All the money about him, $20, was taken, and he was afterwards removed to St. Francis Hospital, this city, where he has remained ever since, unable to make his complaint until now. Yesterday evening the defendants were arrested by the officers, after considerable resistance and were brought to the city in irons yesterday morning. The Alderman held each in the sum of $2,000 for a final hearing on Saturday.

Sapollo.

Almost daily we hear of some new use to which sapollo may be advantageously applied, and for which the manufacturers do not recommend it. The time is not far distant when sapollo will be as indispensable in the family as flour and fuel.

Better is a dinner of herbs, served up on utensils which have been thoroughly cleaned with sapollo, than a stalled ox brought before you upon soiled and tarnished table ware.

The discovery of vast diamond fields in South Africa has created intense excitement throughout the world, but the discovery and introduction of sapollo is of vastly more importance, for, without it, all mankind would be miserable and wretched.

BRACELETS, and jewelry of all descriptions, at Biggs & Hoyle's, No. 6 Wylie street.

List of United States Patents.

Issued to citizens of Western Pennsylvania, for the week ending December 13, 1870, and each bearing that date. Reported weekly for the COMMERCIAL, from the office of David A. Burr, Solicitor of Patents and Attorney in Patent cases, Washington City, D. C.:

No. 110,005—Steam Heater; Edward Bogrue, Pittsburgh.

No. 110,027—Manufacture of Paints; Frederick W. Gerdes, Allegheny.

No. 110,056—Mold for making Glassware; Jas. B. Lyon, Pittsburgh.

No. 110,072—Basket for Tile Grinders; Peter C. Reniers, Pittsburgh.

No. 110,085—Journal Box; Edward H Stearns, Erie.

No. 110,117—Car-axle-box Cover; David Cowley, Erie.

No. 110,167—Fruit and vegetable Parer; Hen Soggs Columbus.

The Improved Singer Sewing Machine

Runs remarkably light and quiet.
Requires no skill to run it.
Has all the latest improvements.
Uses ready wound wooden bobbins.
Makes lock stitch alike on both sides.
Uses a short straight needle, easily set.
Has a self-adjusting tension.
Can be oiled and cleaned without taking apart.
Will sew the heaviest cloth with linen thread.
Requires no adjusting.
Has perfect attachments for hemming, felling, braiding, &c.
It is constructed on the most correct principles, and of the best material.
It is the only machine with which enough to sell without the aid of canvassers running from house to house.
The agency for the Singer is the oldest in the State, having been established by Mr. Straw, twenty years ago. Call and see the Singer at No. 20 Sixth street, and you will buy no other, Straw & Morton.

Public Amusements.

OPERA HOUSE.—Mr. Emmet makes his last appearance but two to-night, the occasion of his benefit, "Fritz," with new songs, dances and solos.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The European Novelties, Sheridan, Mack and the full dramatic company appear to night in a first rate bill.

VARIETIES THEATER.—One of the best performances offered at any similar place in the country is given at the Varieties Theater by Manager Alms's company. The bill to-night will be replete with novelties.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Charges Against Chief Engineer McElroy.

Examination of Witnesses Before the Fire Commissioners.

A Somewhat Novel Investigation.

The long-talked of charges against Chief Engineer McElroy, of the Paid Fire Department, came up for investigation yesterday afternoon, at two o'clock, in the Common Council Chamber. Owing to the fact that the janitor had not been notified of the meeting, the chamber was icy cold, and half an hour was lost at the outset in waiting for fires. The chamber was quite uncomfortable for an hour or more.

At half past two o'clock the commissioners came to order, Mr. Harry Hays, in the chair. The secretary, Mr. Diehl, called the roll, when all the members answered, viz: Robt. W. Mackey, John H. Stewart, Robert Finney, John McElroy, Wm. McKelvey, M. K. Moreh ead, John J. Tepley and Wm. B. Negley.

The Chairman stated that they had met to investigate certain charges against the Chief Engineer.

COL. STEWART'S EXPLANATION.

Col. J. H. Stewart arose and explained why the meeting had been held in this place, instead of in the rooms of the Commissioners. Notwithstanding the fact that the Commissioners had endeavored faithfully to discharge their duties, they had met with considerable opposition, both from citizens and members of the press. After the charges had been made against the Chief Engineer, the Commissioners called a meeting, which was fully attended, and had decided upon the most time for hearing the investigation. The Commissioners supposed their own office was the proper place to meet, and Thursday, the first morning would not accommodate more than the Commissioners, witnesses, and others who would have to be present, he offered a resolution to admit but one reporter, with the understanding that he should make official report and furnish it to all the papers. He did this in good faith, and with no desire to exclude either the press or the public. He was under the impression that one reporter could do the work acceptably for all the papers, but in this he may be mistaken. At all events, it was the intention of the Commissioners to give the public a full report of the whole proceedings. They had nothing to conceal. On the contrary, their books are open at all times to the inspection of any citizen or any reporter. Neither was any discourtesy intended, in limiting the number of reporters, as the commissioners, having nothing to withhold, would have been glad to have had the press fully represented, had the room permitted. In passing the resolution, the Commissioners may have made a mistake, but if so it was entirely unintentional. The Common Council having tendered the use of their chamber, it was supposed that there was room for all who wished to attend. Several members of the commission endorsed the statement just made by Colonel Stewart.

THE CHARGES.

The Secretary, Mr. Diehl, was then requested to read the charges, which he did, as follows:

To the Honorable Fire Commissioners of the City of Pittsburgh:

GENTLEMEN: The undersigned respectfully present the following for your consideration: On the 26th day of November, 1870, the engine works in the Fifteenth ward of the city took fire. Went once gave the alarm from box No. 67, which was responded to by two steam fire engines, the Independence and Niagara, and also the Lazear Company. We made our application, through our foreman, Mr. Wm. Ramsey, for a stream of water. The application was not granted although the fire was raging fearfully and endangering a great amount of property. After the fire had burned almost one hour our engineer, Mr. Moore, approached the Chief Engineer to make some suggestions as to getting a stream into our back yard. Instead of complying with his request he was treated in a very rude manner. We therefore prefer the following charges against the Chief of the Fire Department:

First—We charge that he neglected our property by allowing the fire to rage fearfully for over one hour without making an attempt to quell the same, although respectfully requested to do so by our manager, Mr. Wm. Ramsey.

Second—We charge that his conduct and language to Mr Henry Moore, our engineer, when making a suggestion as to a stream of water, was contemptuously in the extreme, and calculated to produce riot and disturbance.

Third—That when he did make an attempt to extinguish the fire, it was done in a manner which demonstrated his unfitness for the office of Chief Engineer.

WORMSER, MYERS & CO.,
Proprietors Pittsburgh Oil Works.

The Chairman announced that the Commission was ready to proceed with the investigation.

THE COUNSEL.

Josiah Cohen, Esq., appeared as counsel for the complainants, and Col. Thomas M. Bayne represented the Chief Engineer.

MR. COHEN'S OPENING.

Mr. Cohen addressed the Commission briefly. He felt confident that the Commission would discharge its duty faithfully and honestly and do justice between the parties. He appeared not in the capacity of a prosecutor, but simply to ask a fair and impartial investigation of the charges made. He did not represent one man merely, but the entire community, as every citizen was deeply interested in the matters involved in the investigation.

COL. BAYNE'S REMARKS.

Rose to say a word in behalf of Mr. McElroy, but before proceeding would ask what rules were to govern in the examination?

Mr. Cohen—The rules of Parliamentary practice.

Colonel Bayne—Will the Commission agree to be governed by the rules of evidence?

The Chairman—We will endeavor to follow those rules as nearly as possible.

Col. Bayne—I am glad to hear this so decided. I claim the right on behalf of the Chief Engineer, to demur to the whole proceeding, but shall waive that demurrer and proceed with the investigation.

Mr. Cohen—The gentleman had better place his demurrer in writing.

Col. Bayne—I have just stated that the demurrer is waived.

The Testimony for the Prosecution.

The following witnesses were then examined in support of the charges:

WATER PRESSURE—ROUGH LANGUAGE.

George H. Moore, sworn—Was employed at Wormser, Myers & Co.'s as engineer: was there during the fire; was getting the hose out when the still exploded; the Independence and Niagara came very close together and took a position in the lumber yard immediately adjoining us; there is a brick wall, twenty feet high, between the oil works and the lumber yard; was on the premises when the fire was put out; the fire burnt an hour, or over, before we got any water from the Fire Department; requested Mr. Wilson, the engineer, to give us a stream soon after the fire commenced; he said he would "see about it;" there were four engines in the lumber yard, all playing on the board piles; went to the Chief Engineer and asked him for a stream of water, and he said he would "see about it." At this time, there was a tar tank on fire, containing about 1,000 barrels of tar, the benzole tank was also on fire. Made a second application at a time when the fire was nearly out in the lumber yard. The Niagara threw a stream over the wall, and I went over to request the Chief to take the stream of him as it was not doing any good. He then said "G—d—you, are you chief, or am I?" I said "you can control and do what you like for your self but the stream is not doing any good. He said "I don't want the advice of your D—d—d" you can't make me shut up," and he replied "I will slap your mouth."

On cross-examination the witness stated, in detail, the kind of property which Messrs. Wormser, Myers & Co. owned, at the time of the fire. The board yard belonged to Mr. Brown, and contained a great many piles of lumber. The fire caught in the board yard about ten minutes after it caught in the refinery.

THREATENING TO SHOOT.

MR. Bayne then asked the witness if he did not threaten to shoot Mr. McElroy?

The witness declined to answer.

Mr. Cohen said the question was not legal, as no answer might criminate himself.

The Chairman ruled that the question was proper.

The witness flatly refused to answer, explaining that no threats were made at the time to which he had been testifying.

Col. Bayne claimed that this conduct on the witness had become contumacious, and refused to answer, all his testimony be stricken out.

Mr. Cohen objected to this, and the point was not insisted upon.

THE COMMISSION RETIRE FOR CONSULTATION.

Colonel Stewart then moved that in view of the disputes which had arisen between counsel as to the testimony, the commission should withdraw for a few minutes for consultation.

Agreed to, and the commission retired. In a short time the commission retired, and submitted the following:

"The Fire Commission, anxious for a development of all the facts relating to the merits of the charges against the Chief Engineer, before them, insist upon witnesses giving their statements *in full* in reply to questions asked by counsel, and this without compelling us to them, otherwise than as their testimony may be affected upon such statements, as considered truthful or untruthful."

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Mr. Moore—I said to my brother-in-law that I would have shot Mr. McElroy, *if* he had struck me.

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On cross-examination the witness stated that the loss to the refinery was not near as great as it might have been. He had not made an estimate of the loss.

In chief—We put the fire out by the use of our own hose. Had we not had our own hose the fire would have destroyed the tar tank. At the oil in the still would also have been destroyed, while we only lost seventy-five out of two hundred barrels.

CORROBORATIVE EVIDENCE.

Edward Honsten, sworn—Am a book-keeper for Wormser, Myers & Co.; got out to the works at half past five o'clock, on the day of the fire; at that time the hose from the well was the only one in use; the new elements after that we got a stream from one of the department engines, and that stream put out the fire in the refinery; the Chief Engineer said he would "see about it." At this time, there was a tar tank on fire, containing 1,000 barrels of tar, and the benzole tank was also on fire. Made a second application at a time when the fire was nearly out in the lumber yard. The Niagara threw a stream over the wall, and I went over to request the Chief to take the stream of him as it was not doing any good. He then said "G—d—you, are you chief, or am I?" I said "you can control and do what you like for your self but the stream is not doing any good. He said "I don't want the advice of your D—d—d" you can't make me shut up," and he replied "I will slap your mouth."

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Edward Honsten, sworn—Am a book-keeper for Wormser, Myers & Co.; got out to the works at half past five o'clock, on the day of the fire; at that time the hose from the well was the only one in use; the new elements after that we got a stream from one of the department engines, and that stream put out the fire in the refinery; the Commissioners may have made a mistake, but if so it was entirely unintentional. The Common Council having tendered the use of their chamber, it was supposed that there was room for all who wished to attend. Several members of the commission endorsed the statement just made by Colonel Stewart.

THE CHARGES.

The Secretary, Mr. Diehl, was then requested to read the charges, which he did, as follows:

To the Honorable Fire Commissioners of the City of Pittsburgh:

GENTLEMEN: The undersigned respectfully present the following for your consideration: On the 26th day of November, 1870, the engine works in the Fifteenth ward of the city took fire. Went once gave the alarm from box No. 67, which was responded to by two steam fire engines, the Independence and Niagara, and also the Lazear Company. We made our application, through our foreman, Mr. Wm. Ramsey, for a stream of water. The application was not granted although the fire was raging fearfully and endangering a great amount of property. After the fire had burned almost one hour our engineer, Mr. Moore, approached the Chief Engineer to make some suggestions as to getting a stream into our back yard. Instead of complying with his request he was treated in a very rude manner. We therefore prefer the following charges against the Chief of the Fire Department:

First—We charge that he neglected our property by allowing the fire to rage fearfully for over one hour without making an attempt to quell the same, although respectfully requested to do so by our manager, Mr. Wm. Ramsey.

Second—We charge that his conduct and language to Mr Henry Moore, our engineer, when making a suggestion as to a stream of water, was contemptuously in the extreme, and calculated to produce riot and disturbance.

Third—That when he did make an attempt to extinguish the fire, it was done in a manner which demonstrated his unfitness for the office of Chief Engineer.

WORMSER, MYERS & Co.,
Proprietors Pittsburgh Oil Works.

The Chairman announced that the Commission was ready to proceed with the investigation.

THE COUNSEL.

Josiah Cohen, Esq., appeared as counsel for the complainants, and Col. Thomas M. Bayne represented the Chief Engineer.

MR. COHEN'S OPENING.

Mr. Cohen addressed the Commission briefly. He felt confident that the Commission would discharge its duty faithfully and honestly and do justice between the parties. He appeared not in the capacity of a prosecutor, but simply to ask a fair and impartial investigation of the charges made. He did not represent one man merely, but the entire community, as every citizen was deeply interested in the matters involved in the investigation.

COL. BAYNE'S REMARKS.

Rose to say a word in behalf of Mr. McElroy, but before proceeding would ask what rules were to govern in the examination?

Mr. Cohen—The rules of Parliamentary practice.

Colonel Bayne—Will the Commission agree to be governed by the rules of evidence?

The Chairman—We will endeavor to follow those rules as nearly as possible.

Col. Bayne—I am glad to hear this so decided. I claim the right on behalf of the Chief Engineer, to demur to the whole proceeding, but shall waive that demurrer and proceed with the investigation.

Mr. Cohen—The gentleman had better place his demurrer in writing.

Col. Bayne—I have just stated that the demurrer is waived.

The Testimony for the Prosecution.

The following witnesses were then examined in support of the charges:

WATER PRESSURE—ROUGH LANGUAGE.

George H. Moore, sworn—Was employed at Wormser, Myers & Co.'s as engineer: was there during the fire; was getting the hose out when the still exploded; the Independence and Niagara came very close together and took a position in the lumber yard immediately adjoining us; there is a brick wall, twenty feet high, between the oil works and the lumber yard; was on the premises when the fire was put out; the fire burnt an hour, or over, before we got any water from the Fire Department; requested Mr. Wilson, the engineer, to give us a stream soon after the fire commenced; he said he would "see about it;" there were four engines in the lumber yard, all playing on the board piles; went to the Chief Engineer and asked him for a stream of water, and he said he would "see about it." At this time, there was a tar tank on fire, containing about 1,000 barrels of tar, the benzole tank was also on fire. Made a second application at a time when the fire was nearly out in the lumber yard. The Niagara threw a stream over the wall, and I went over to request the Chief to take the stream of him as it was not doing any good. He then said "G—d—you, are you chief, or am I?" I said "you can control and do what you like for your self but the stream is not doing any good. He said "I don't want the advice of your D—d—d" you can't make me shut up," and he replied "I will slap your mouth."

On cross-examination the witness stated, in detail, the kind of property which Messrs. Wormser, Myers & Co. owned, at the time of the fire. The board yard belonged to Mr. Brown, and contained a great many piles of lumber. The fire caught in the board yard about ten minutes after it caught in the refinery.

THREATENING TO SHOOT.

MR. Bayne then asked the witness if he did not threaten to shoot Mr. McElroy?

The witness declined to answer.

Mr. Cohen said the question was not legal, as no answer might criminate himself.

The Chairman ruled that the question was proper.

The witness flatly refused to answer, explaining that no threats were made at the time to which he had been testifying.

Col. Bayne claimed that this conduct on the witness had become contumacious, and refused to answer, all his testimony be stricken out.

Mr. Cohen objected to this, and the point was not insisted upon.

THE COMMISSION RETIRE FOR CONSULTATION.

Colonel Stewart then moved that in view of the disputes which had arisen between counsel as to the testimony, the commission should withdraw for a few minutes for consultation.

Agreed to, and the commission retired. In a short time the commission retired, and submitted the following:

"The Fire Commission, anxious for a development of all the facts relating to the merits of the charges against the Chief Engineer, before them, insist upon witnesses giving their statements *in full* in reply to questions asked by counsel, and this without compelling us to them, otherwise than as their testimony may be affected upon such statements, as considered truthful or untruthful."

CAN "IF."

Col. Bayne to Mr. Moore—Did you threaten to shoot Mr. McElroy?

Mr. Moore—I said to my brother-in-law that I would have shot Mr. McElroy, *if* he had struck me.

The witness explained that this conversation occurred after hostility between himself and the Chief Engineer, and at a time when the Chief was not present.

ANOTHER RENCONTRE WITH THE CHIEF.

William Ramsey, sworn—Am foreman for Wormser, Myers & Co.; after the fire commenced I went to Mr. White, Assistant Engineer, and asked for a stream; Mr. White said he would "see about it." Some time after, I went to the Chief Engineer and requested him to give us some water. He said, "I'm engineering this thing." I said, "Yes, I know that, and a pretty thing you're making of it," Mr. Wormser afterwards wanted me to go to the Chief, but I refused, saying, "I have got nothing to do with him, for he's a d—d fool"—as I thought he was. It was nearly six o'clock before any water was thrown on the refinery. I think the fire could have been extinguished in about ten minutes.

On cross-examination the witness stated that the loss to the refinery was not near as great as it might have been. He had not made an estimate of the loss.

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